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BIRTH.

At "Ferryton," Forfar, on the 31st March, the wife of Doctor JAMES A. LOWSON, of a son. [838]

MARRIAGE.

At All Saints' Church, Tientsin, on Wednesday, March 24th, 1897, by the Rev. Frank L. Norris, M.A., WILLIAM KEMP BRADGATE, of Liverpool, Lancashire, to EDITH NEILL, eldest daughter of ALEXANDER CHAMBERS, of Wanstead, Essex.

DEATHS.

At the General Hospital, Singapore, on the 29th March, the Very Rev. CANON DELOUETTE, aged 49.
At Shanghai, on the 2nd April, 1897, WILLIAM HENRY SHORT, aged 54 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 4th March arrived, per P. M. steamer *China*, on the 31st March (27 days); the English mail of the 5th March arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Mirzapore*, on the 3rd April (29 days); and the German mail of the 8th March arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Bavaria*, on the 7th April (30 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The session of the Japanese Diet was closed on the 25th March.

The colony of Queensland has signified its participation in the Anglo-Japanese treaty.

Over 1,000 trade marks are reported to have already been registered by foreigners in Japan.

The ceremony of proclaiming the Queen of Siam Regent during the absence of the King on his visit to Europe took place on the 21st March.

The Hupeh cotton mill at Hanyang is reported to have made a profit of fifty thousand taels last year.

The Hongkong correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* hears that Mr. Fraser, Acting British Consul at Canton, will be appointed Consul at Wuchowfu on the West River.

The branch line of the Tientsin-Peking railway to Paotingfu is being rapidly pushed forward, to connect the capital city of the province of Chihli, which is also the headquarters of the Viceregal Yamen during the closing of the Peiho.—*Mercury*.

The British community of Yokohama has decided to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with an out-door fête, something on the lines of the Jubilee celebration of 1887, and to open a list to raise funds for the rebuilding of Christ Church.

The form the memorial of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee should take is being warmly discussed at Hongkong. The choice appears now to be narrowed down to a female hospital with nurses' training institute attached and a carriage road round the island.

News of importance to the various manufacturing industries springing up in Shanghai was received on the 1st April in Shanghai. It was stated that an Imperial edict has been issued decreeing that the products of the mills are to pay the ordinary import duty, free from any further inland taxation, as in the case of similar imported goods.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A serious riot has occurred at Shanghai arising out of a strike of wheelbarrow-men in consequence of the Municipality increasing the licence fee for that class of vehicles. The Volunteers and Firemen have been called out and Bluejackets landed. The Council, according to latest advices, had given in to the extent of postponing the increased fee for three months, but quiet has not been restored.

Sir N. J. Hannen, Chief Justice, gave judgment in the Supreme Court at Shanghai on the 31st March in the case of the *Newchwang* and *Onwo*. All questions had already been disposed of with the exception of the prayer that those persons who might claim for loss of life should be restrained from bringing their cases in that court. His Lordship's decision was that he would not restrain the actions for loss of life.

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China on the 1st April received telegraphic advice from the head office in London that at the approaching meeting of shareholders of the Bank the directors will recommend a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum, free of income tax, making 8 per cent. for the year, the same as for 1895, that £25,000 be added to the reserve fund, and £13,000 carried forward as undivided profit.

Messrs. Shawan, Tomes & Co., Agents of the Yangtze Insurance Co., Limited, received on the 31st March a telegram to the effect that the directors will recommend at the general meeting of shareholders the payment of a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. for 1896 and the payment of a further dividend of 10 per cent. on account of previous years, making in all 20 per cent. or \$12 per share. It is also proposed to carry \$50,000 to reserve fund.

Mr. W. B. Russell, Commissioner of Customs, proceeds from Shanghai to Swatow to take charge of the office. It is reported that Mr. R. E. Bredon and Mr. E. B. Drew, both Commissioners of Customs, have resigned from the service.—*N. C. Daily News*.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce held on the 29th March a letter from Mr. J. Rijke, offering on more acceptable terms to survey and report on the Bars and the Whangpoo River, was read, and after some discussion on the subject it was decided to accept the offer. Mr. Rijke asks \$5,000 U.S. gold for his work.

From the *Comercio* we learn that at the capture of Imus four Spanish officers were killed and two fatally wounded, and 29 soldiers were killed. Twelve officers and 117 men were wounded. General Polavieja has issued a proclamation offering a free pardon to all rebels who surrender before the 11th April. Officers in command of the rebel forces who desire to take advantage of this offer are required to surrender with the men composing their command and to deliver up their arms.

According to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* Baron von Gutschmid will not return to Japan, his place at Tokyo being taken by Baron von Waecker-Gotter, at present German Ambassador to Serbia. Baron von Waecker-Gotter, says our contemporary, will arrive in Tokyo in May next to take up his new duties. This announcement will be read with considerable surprise, and we (*Kobe Chronicle*) are inclined to doubt its accuracy. It was generally understood that Baron von Gutschmid had simply gone home on leave, and would return to Japan after a very brief absence.

A largely attended meeting was held at the Supreme Court at Shanghai on the 31st March, Sir Nicholas Hannen presiding, to consider proposals for celebrating the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. Schemes for the building of a Seaman's Church and Institute, proposed by Rev. H. C. Hodges, and for the building of a British Hospital, proposed by Mr. Drummond, were brought forward; but it was decided to leave the proposed memorials to be discussed in the first instance by the committee which was appointed, before being discussed in public meeting.

The Viceroy Chang of Wuchang and Governor T'an of Hupeh have recently issued a proclamation notifying the people of Hupeh province that the Emperor has ordered the building of a railway between Peking and Hankow for the benefit of the Government and the people of the country. The proclamation further prohibits owners of land through which the railway will have to pass from raising the price of their property, and states that "it is the rule in foreign countries for railway companies to buy any land they wish along the route of the railway irrespective of the wishes of the owners thereof, but of course always at a fair valuation at current rates." The railway in North China have followed this rule, and the new railway will do so also. It is a fact worthy of note that Chinese officials now a-days rarely use the words "it is a rule in foreign countries," whenever they wish to justify any new action which the masses never expected.—*N. C. Daily News*.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE MEMORIAL

The date for sending in schemes for the permanent memorial of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee has now passed, and presumably the selection, if ultimately a memorial be decided upon, will have to be made from those already before the public. These are—

- 1.—A road round the Island, or at least round the south side.
- 2.—A new Clock Tower and the Completion of the Queen's Statue.
- 3.—A Hospital for Women with a Training Institute for Nurses in connection therewith.
- 4.—A Soldiers' and Sailors' Institute.
- 5.—The establishment on a better basis of the College of Medicine for Chinese.

These, we believe, are all the schemes laid before the Committee. Others have been suggested in newspaper correspondence, including Public Baths for Europeans and Chinese, Scholarships, and a School for European Children at the Peak, but these, not having been placed formally before the Committee, nor, so far as is known, being specially favoured by any of the individual members of the Committee, may be dismissed from consideration. The formulated schemes above enumerated all possess merit and each is strongly advocated by its supporters. What, then, are the principles by which the choice between them should be determined? We have first to consider the suitability of each scheme as a memorial and the practicability of carrying it out. In the forefront stands the financial question—what would be the cost, what support would be received from the Government, and what amount could be raised by public subscription? At present the public finances are in a straightened condition and the Government is hardly in a position to enter upon any very large expenditure of an extraordinary character.

The proposed road round the island is a much needed work, but the general feeling seems to be that it is essentially a Government work, and we doubt very much whether a public subscription on its behalf would meet with any response worth speaking of. It is of the essence of the idea of a memorial that the expenditure should be defrayed, to the extent of at least one half, by subscription, thus giving it a character of spontaneity on the part of the community that would be lacking if the cost were defrayed entirely from compulsory taxation. The proposed road would take some years to construct, many people who are in a position to subscribe liberally would probably not be in the colony to enjoy it when it was completed, and the work is not one which would appeal to them on philanthropic grounds; under these circumstances such persons might not unreasonably elect to give expression to their patriotism and affection for their Sovereign by subscribing to the home fund for placing the endowments of the London Hospitals on a better basis. This as regards those of the European community whose term of residence is drawing to a close. As regards those who have to look forward to bearing the heat and burden of the day for an indefinite term, they would, as already suggested, probably not think it incumbent upon them to relieve the Government of the cost of necessary road-making by dipping into their private purse, but would prefer to give expression to their loyalty in some other shape. As to the Chinese, while they

would no doubt approve on general grounds of the making of the road, the chance of their subscribing any very large sum for that purpose appears remote. For these reasons we think the idea of a carriage road round the island as a memorial of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee may be dismissed. We hope the Government will take the work in hand as soon as possible, and it would afford general satisfaction if Her Majesty's name were associated with it when completed, but the road could not be made to serve the purpose of a memorial voluntarily erected by the community.

Similar arguments apply to the Clock Tower scheme. The necessity for this work has already been practically acknowledged by the Government, the plans have been prepared, and in course of time a new clock tower will be erected as a matter of course. If the community chose to expedite matters by subscribing half the cost as a memorial of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee no doubt the Government would make an effort to proceed with the work at once. A clock tower would, it must be admitted, make an excellent memorial in itself; it would possess the element of permanency in almost as large a degree as a statue and might by adaptation in its design be made almost as characteristic. It does not, however, appeal to the spirit of the philanthropy, and Her Majesty is believed to desire that any funds raised for the commemoration of Her Diamond Jubilee should be applied to objects having for their aim the relief of the sick and suffering. Although the expression of that desire is perhaps not necessarily to be taken as universally binding it must be taken into consideration.

The proposed Soldiers' and Sailors' Institute, excellent as the idea is in itself, strikes us as being too narrow in its scope to commend itself as suitable for the present occasion. We have no doubt that if the Rev. G. R. VALLINGS could form a strong committee and made an appeal to the public at a favourable time funds could be raised for this purpose without any special reference to the great historic event we are about to commemorate. At present a good deal of spare cash has gone out of the colony for the relief of the sufferers by the Indian famine, and with the Diamond Jubilee subscription pending the present could not be considered a favourable moment for urging any other special object requiring large funds, but in the course of a year or two the community would probably be found willing to subscribe liberally towards such an institute as Mr. VALLINGS proposes. However that may be, we think the scheme must be dismissed from consideration in the present connection.

There remain, then, the Hospital for Women and Nursing Institute and the College of Medicine for Chinese. These are put forward as separate schemes, but might perhaps be amalgamated on the lines suggested by our correspondent "School and Home" in yesterday's issue, namely, that both should be worked in connection with the Government Civil Hospital. Both will appeal to the charitable and philanthropic feelings of the community and in that respect the adoption of either one or both of them would comply with the desire believed to be entertained by Her Majesty that the funds should be devoted to the relief of the sick and suffering. Furthermore, the general community must, in a matter of this kind, be led to some extent by the feelings and wishes of those who are in a position to head the subscription list with substantial amounts. The proposed Women's Hospital and Nursing

Institute has very influential backing amongst the European community and funds would be raised for it more readily than for any of the other schemes that have been mentioned. Such a memorial would meet a real-existent need, and once established there could be no doubt as to its permanent success. The College of Medicine would also meet, or aim at meeting, a real-existent need, and amongst the more enlightened of the leading Chinese there is a strong feeling in its favour. It is most desirable that the two communities should cordially unite in raising the funds for the memorial, whatever it may be, and a combination of these two schemes, the Nursing Institute and Hospital for Women and the College of Medicine, seems to offer the best means of bringing about that union. A sum of from \$80,000 to \$100,000 raised by public subscription would suffice to set the combined institutions going, and the Government, as its share, might undertake the responsibility for their permanent upkeep. They would be in part self-supporting.

Since writing the above we have seen the list of signatures to the letter suggesting a road round the island, or at least round the southern portion of it, as the permanent memorial. They amount to 192, and there would probably have been many more had they been actively canvassed for. Amongst the signatures we notice those of Messrs. H. N. Mody, HERBERT SMITH, JOHN THURBURN, A. COXON, and D. GILLIES, who are members of the Committee—five out of the twenty-seven composing the Committee. These gentlemen, if we may be allowed to say so, would have exercised a wiser discretion, had they endeavoured to keep an open mind until all the schemes to be put forward were placed before them. Waiving that point, however, the next step, it seems to us, should be to ascertain how much the 192 signatories and their friends are prepared to subscribe towards the cost of the road. Assuming the average subscription, taking large and small together, to be \$20, that would give, in round figures, \$4,000, which would perhaps suffice to make half a mile of the road.

NURSING FACILITIES IN HONGKONG

Those residents who advocate a hospital for women and a nurses' training institution as a memorial of the completion of the sixtieth year of the Queen's reign will be gratified by the publication of the official papers on the nursing question, a portion of which we reproduce in another column. An Association has been formed at home "with a view to meeting the great need for skilled private nursing experienced in many of the Crown colonies and in some British communities in foreign parts." This need, it is stated, "has been strongly recommended by medical officers abroad, who in many places attribute the high percentage of deaths to the impossibility of obtaining trained nurses." The Association is favoured by the Secretary of State for the Colonies who, in a circular despatch to Governors, says:—"It would recommend that although the scheme is entirely independent of the Government, you should do all in your power to encourage it, if the want which it is intended to supply exists in the colony under your Government." The want does exist in this colony, and in a very marked degree, but having already a highly efficient staff

of sisters at the Government Civil Hospital the need could be more satisfactorily met, we think, by enlarging that staff and by training nurses locally than by affiliation with the Colonial Nursing Institution. Dr. AYRES, the Colonial Surgeon, when at home last year, was requested to report on the subject. After referring to the great need of nurses for the use of the public in Hongkong, Dr. AYRES went on to advocate that each colony should obtain all its nurses from one source. "Our experience," he says, "is that, obtained from different schools, there are disagreements and unpleasantnesses amongst themselves, and the matron and medical staff have trouble, but obtained from the same source in all cases there is an *esprit de corps* among them that is wanting in the case mentioned." The objects of the Colonial Nursing Association are admirable, but this colony can do better for itself by working on independent lines. One of the objects of the Association is to assist financially those colonies and communities which, though greatly in need of a nurse, can show that they are unable themselves to bear the full expenses of her maintenance and travelling expenses from and back to England. A wealthy colony like Hongkong could not take advantage of eleemosynary assistance of that description. All that the Association could do for us, therefore, would be to make the selection of the sisters to be sent out, and in that respect the present arrangement could not be improved upon. What is required, then, is to increase the number of sisters and to establish a class for training nurses locally.

It is hardly necessary to insist upon the need of increased nursing facilities, notwithstanding the opinion expressed by a correspondent in yesterday's issue that Hongkong is as well nursed as any place in the world. His argument was altogether vitiated by his attempt to make the list of hospitals look imposing by including those appertaining to the Army and Navy, which are not available for the general community. Furthermore, apart from the question of increased hospital accommodation, we want increased facilities for home nursing. How great is the need that exists is shown by the case mentioned by the Colonial Secretary in his memorandum of two ladies having to share between them the services of one untrained nurse. Even if the memorial of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign should take some other form, this question of providing skilled European nurses for the community should not be allowed to drop. For bachelors when sick the hospital is the proper place, but with the great increase in family life that has taken place in the colony of late years and that is still going on, the demand for home nursing has so largely outstripped the supply that the need for more nurses, properly trained for the profession, has become acute. At Shanghai, where similar conditions prevail, steps have been taken to meet the requirement by bringing out a staff of nursing sisters whose services are to be available to the community, and Hongkong ought not to be behind the northern settlement in such an important matter. The idea of training Eurasian nurses locally is an excellent one, but it would be several years before the supply from that source would become available, and even then the locally trained nurses would not command the same confidence in critical cases as nursing sisters obtained from the home hospitals. Whatever else may be decided upon, therefore, the first step that should be taken

is to get out five or six more ladies from home. The recommendations of Dr. AYRES, Dr. ATKINSON, and Miss EASTMOND refer more particularly to the establishment of a training school, but it seems to us that this scheme, excellent as it is in itself, should be made subsidiary to the provision of a trained nursing staff whose services would be available at once.

A CARRIAGE ROAD ROUND THE ISLAND.

Although it is improbable that the proposed road round the island will be selected as the scheme to which the public subscription for a memorial of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee should be devoted it is to be hoped the project will be taken up by the Government and carried into effect with as little delay as possible. The present agitation in its favour has shown how strong is the feeling in favour of the execution of the work, and very little consideration is necessary to satisfy any one of its utility and, in fact, necessity. The road proposed by General BLACK to connect Wanchai Gap with Wongneichong Gap should also be carried out, and in this connection we would once more urge the construction of the much needed road from Plantation Road tramway station to Magazine Gap. For the last ten years roadmaking has been practically at a standstill in the colony, and during that time the population both on the lower and the upper levels has been steadily increasing, and the need for further outlets has been growing in the same proportion. When Mr. PRICE was in charge of the Public Works Department a very healthy activity was displayed in this direction and road after road was made without any fuss and apparently at little expense, the public hardly realising that the work was in progress until they found the new roads available for traffic. We may mention in particular Kennedy Road, the road from Wanchai to Aberdeen, the road from Mount Gough to Aberdeen, the various roads at the Peak, Magazine Gap Road, and the splendid Bowen Road. It is unnecessary to descant upon the advantages of each and all of these roads, as they are fully appreciated and made use of by the public. Under the administration of the late Mr. BROWN and that of Mr. COOPER the activities of the department have been mainly confined to carrying out the Praya Reclamation (which was designed before Mr. Price left), water and drainage works, and other sanitary improvements. We have no desire to underrate the importance of these works, and, as everything cannot be done at once with the means at the department's disposal, there may be something to be said in extenuation of the inaction that has prevailed in the opening up of the island by the construction of roads. We believe, however, we are correct in saying that even if there had not been pressure of work in other directions Mr. COOPER would probably have displayed no great enthusiasm in extending the roads of the colony, that being a class of work which, if we may be excused the colloquialism, seems to be rather out of his line of country. There has been more talk about the making of the few hundred yards of roadway required to give a more direct connection between Victoria Gap and Mount Kellett than there was about all the many miles of roads made by Mr. PRICE, always excepting the discussion caused by the obstruction offered by the military authorities to the making of Kennedy Road. We are now about to have a

change in the office of Director of Public Works, and we hope that under the new regime we may see a renewal of activity in the making of new roads and the extension and improvement of old ones, that being now the most urgent requirement of the colony in the matter of public works. From General BLACK and the two unofficial members of the Executive Council the public will expect all the assistance those gentlemen can render in support of this policy. As General BLACK says in his letter to the Jubilee Committee, "Roads are the precursors of progress and civilization," they distinguish a rising from a barbarous state. Roads for recreation and health are one of the great wants of this island."

PUBLICITY FOR THE DIAMOND JUBILEE COMMITTEE'S PROCEEDINGS.

Whatever form of memorial of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee may be decided upon by the Committee it is to be feared there will be a good many dissentients, public opinion being so widely divided as it is between the proposed road round the island and the various schemes for increased hospital accommodation, nursing, and medical education. One of the best means of lessening dissension, however, and securing such concord as may be possible, would, we think, be to throw the meetings of the Committee open to the press, in order that the public might be in a position to judge for themselves of the validity of the arguments adduced for and against the respective schemes. It must be remembered that the Committee has not been elected by the community and that it is not a fully representative one. Under these circumstances is it to be expected that if the Committee carries on its deliberations in private and concludes by making the bald announcement that this, that, or the other scheme has been adopted, the decision will be readily and cheerfully acquiesced in by the opponents of the rejected schemes? The various schemes may be said to be on their trial, and the trial ought to be conducted in open court. With the guarantee of fair play which this publicity would afford the community would be the more ready to waive any objection that might be taken to the constitution of the court and to accept the decision as authoritative. In the early stages of the discussion, while the ground was being cleared, there might be some reasons of convenience for holding the meetings of the Committee in private, but now that the impossible or inadmissible schemes have been weeded out and the discussion has become focussed on a few definite schemes, each of which is influentially supported, it is desirable that the proceedings should be conducted openly. It would also be advisable, we think, if an invitation were extended to all who wished to address the Committee on behalf of the respective schemes to attend for that purpose. This might perhaps lead to a good deal of what might possibly be considered unprofitable talk, but on the other hand we have no doubt the merits of some of the schemes would be urged in a much more effective manner than can be done in correspondence. As to the final decision, it is desirable that it should be left in the hands of the committee rather than in that of a public meeting, in which the supporters of some particular scheme might beat up sufficient voters to swamp the other schemes without being really representative of the community at large. There is no guarantee

that the names of all the persons voting at such a meeting would subsequently be found on the subscription list, and yet, by skilful combination and management, it is possible that a vote might be obtained in favour of some scheme favoured solely on selfish grounds, such, for instance, as a bicycle track. The Committee, on the other hand, may be relied upon to do its best to arrive at an impartial decision according to its judgment of what would be most gratifying to Her Majesty on the one hand and most suitable to the requirements of the colony on the other. The only drawback under which the Committee labours is that it is too small and that various interests are unrepresented upon it. But whether the Committee be large or small, fully representative or not, we think its decision would command greater confidence if it were arrived at in public. In all other places, so far as our knowledge goes, the question is being discussed in public, and not a single argument occurs to us in favour of making an exception in that respect in Hongkong. Can anyone suggest a reason for preserving privacy in such a case? The case appears eminently one for public discussion, quite as much so, indeed, as that of a Bill in the Legislative Council. Every person in the colony is interested in the decision and ought to know how and why it is arrived at.

THE PLAGUE AND DRAINAGE.

In the volume of Medical Reports for the half-year ended the 31st March, 1896, just issued by the Imperial Maritime Customs, are included reports from Swatow and Hoihow, in both of which reference is made to the plague. As we have got into the month of April without any indication of the reappearance of the disease either in this colony or its immediate neighbourhood, we may anticipate that there will be no renewal of the outbreak this year, nor, we hope, in future years. The danger, however, is not one to be ignored, and every reasonable precaution should be taken in order that, should the disease unfortunately reappear in our neighbourhood, this colony may be protected, by an effective system of sanitation, against its obtaining a foothold here. Much has already been done in that direction, and although it cannot be claimed that to this we owe our present immunity, since Canton and the other towns and cities in the vicinity, where little or no improvement has been effected in the sanitation, are likewise free, it must be supposed that if the disease should reappear it would have less chance of assuming serious virulence in this colony than it had in 1894. At Swatow, Dr. HENRY LAYNG tells us, the idea that the poison was in the house was quickly taken up by the Chinese, and the doctor says he knows of several instances where, after two or three had fallen victims, whole households migrated, the result being in each case that no more were attacked. Dr. H. M. McCANDLISH, of Hoihow, says:—"There is, to my mind, every reason to suppose that through the agency of infected rats or human beings, and even cats and pigs, the disease can become lodged in a house, in the ground, or perhaps in a drain, and the poison continue active until the plague cultures run their course or die out." During the prevalence of the plague in Hongkong the theory that houses where the disease had occurred became infected was acted upon, the occupants being removed and the premises disinfected, and there is every reason to believe that these measures greatly limited the spread of the

disease. The object to be aimed at is to bring every house into such a state of sanitation that it shall be able to resist infection. In this connection Dr. McCANDLISH's reference to the possibility of the disease becoming lodged in drains is worthy of note, for the good work accomplished above ground will be largely neutralised if the poison can still be introduced into houses through the drain connections. Dr. WILM, it will be remembered, in his report on last year's epidemic in this colony, in the section dealing with the origin and mode of dissemination of the disease, spoke disparagingly of our drainage system. The slop-water system of drains, Dr. WILM says, "consists of small earthenware pipes, which frequently become stopped up, and, being leaky, allow filthy water to escape into the houses." Dr. WILM's opinion is not necessarily to be accepted as final or authoritative, but it must command attention. Theoretically we believe the much discussed separate system to be sound, but the frequent stoppages of the drains that now occur seem to show that there is some defect in its working. The Hon. F. A. COOPER, to whom the colony is indebted for the system, is shortly leaving us and is now in all probability engaged in the preparation of his last annual report as head of the Public Works Department of Hongkong. In that report we hope he will not neglect to give the public the benefit of his present views on the separate system and say whether his experience has confirmed or modified the opinions on which he proceeded to remodel the colony's drainage.

IMPROVED TRADE ROUTES TO BURMAH AND CHINA.

The Associated Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom have, as stated in an Australian telegram, resolved to urge upon the Government the improvement of the trade routes to Burmah and China. How much may be done for the development of trade by attention to trade routes is shown by a recent report by Captain G. C. TRENCH, an officer who has for the last year on two been stationed at Loh, the capital of Ladakha. Considerable notice has been taken of this report by our Indian contemporaries, and the *Rangoon Gazette* uses it in argument with reference to the development of trade with Yunnan. "In all the discussions which were so common a few years ago on the subject of the 'overland trade' between Burmah and 'Western China,' says that journal, 'the advocates of energetic measures to secure this trade before it could be snapped up by our rivals always wanted railways. The expense was a minor question in their eyes, and any doubts about long lines of railway paying were met by wild and vague statements as to the immense amount of trade that would accrue if Government would only spend the amount necessary to 'tap' it. These enthusiasts ignored difficulties and scorned any smaller scheme as mere pettifoggery. No thing but a railway would satisfy them, no matter what political, financial, and engineering difficulties stood in the way. Of late years we have heard less of these heroic schemes, their advocates apparently having abandoned in despair the attempt to induce Government to undertake them. In another direction, however, the Government of India has been steadily working at the development of an overland trade, one of infinitely greater difficulty than that between Burmah and China, and

have shown what can be done in small ways to develop such a trade." Captain TRENCH gives the statistics of the trade passing through Loh during the past ten years. In 1886-87 the total volume of the trade, export and import combined, was under 29 lakhs of rupees in value. For seven years the value fluctuated between that figure and 34 lakhs; then in 1893-94 it took a bound up to nearly forty lakhs; the following year it was sixty lakhs; and in 1895-96 it was over sixty-two lakhs. This expansion is due, he says, to increased attention to commercial matters on the part of the Government of India; to the greater attention paid to traders by the Assistant Resident at Kashgar, the mart of the export trade, and to the gradual improvement of the road between Srinagar and the borders of China. That the trade between Burmah and Yunnan is capable of similar development, even though the assistance afforded by the Government fall short of the immediate provision of railways, there can be no question.

From this side, also, we hope to see a large development of trade with Western China, now that the West River is to be opened as far as Wuchow and that the transit pass system has been duly recognised in the provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi. The protection of the goods from irregular taxation will have almost as great an effect in promoting trade as the establishment of steam communication. It is, however, desirable that foreign merchants or their representatives should be allowed to penetrate into the country as far as possible in order to secure the fullest possible development of the transit pass system. On this ground it is to be hoped that, even if steam navigation above Wuchow be found impossible, Nanning and Pose, on the upper reaches of the river, may nevertheless be made treaty ports. In the absence of steamers trade could be conducted at those ports by native craft, as has been the case at Chungking, the opening of which has been amply justified by results, even although the Chinese declined, until the conclusion of the treaty with Japan, to assent to steamers ascending the river to that point.

THE YELLOW RIVER.

Once more the Yellow River, that prolific source of trouble to the inhabitants of the provinces through which it winds its sinuous way, has broken its banks and overflowed the surrounding country. It seems that the great stream has burst its eastern bank below Tsinan-fu, the capital of Shantung, and Chang Chui and Chui-tzen are inundated. The latter is an exceptionally populous and busy place, being a seat of the silk trade, and it is expected that serious loss will result from the overflow. Just as in other matters, the Chinese will not learn by their experiences of this treacherous river. The Central Government fritters away vast sums in patching the banks, which are raised above the level of the surrounding country, only to have to repeat the work from year to year; but they will not think of considering a scheme for a permanent remedy for the evil. The Yellow River has on several occasions made a new channel for itself, after causing most frightful havoc and devastation, but no attempt has been made to regulate its course or to render it navigable from the sea. Instead of being a great highway for commerce like its sister stream the Yangtze, the Yellow River loses itself into the

sea by a number of insignificant channels. Engineering science could, we believe, rectify this evil by cutting a new and easily accessible entrance to the sea for its waters. The work would of course be a costly one, but the benefits it would confer on the people of North China would amply repay the cost, which under an enlightened administration could be spread over a long term of years. Such a work ought not to prove too stupendous a task for the people who built the Great Wall of China and excavated the Grand Canal, but it is to be feared that the energy and perseverance that marked the ancient rulers of the Chinese Empire have departed never to return. The reign of the great "Can Do" has been firmly established in the Central Kingdom, and any work beyond patching, repair, or cheap renewal is not to be hoped for from an administration whose main object is personal enrichment from the public treasury.

INSULTS TO WOMEN IN HONG-KONG

Amongst Chinese cities Canton bears the most evil reputation for the insulting behaviour of the lower orders towards females who dare to walk abroad. Elsewhere in China, and even in towns and villages not very far from Canton, it is possible for a female to pass through the streets without incurring any very serious risk of annoyance, but in Canton the conduct of the crowd is such that women of the better class seldom or never venture out except in closed chairs. But bad as is the state of things in this respect at Canton the Chinese say that in this British colony of Hongkong it is still worse. Whether this comparison is fully justified by the facts we cannot say, but certainly the treatment to which women are exposed in the streets of this colony is abominable. Instances of it must, we think, have come under the observation of most residents. Could nothing be done to stop the behaviour complained of? We have heard it suggested that a proclamation by the Registrar-General, backed up by a little energetic action on the part of the police and district watchmen, would go a long way to modify the evil, if not practically to eradicate it. A few prosecutions at the Police Court, coupled with the Registrar-General's proclamation, would make the Chinese public understand that women are not to be insulted with impunity and they would modify their conduct accordingly, so that a Chinese lady would be able to appear in the streets with almost as little risk of insult as European ladies. The latter are by no means exempt, but the insults being expressed in a language they do not understand pass for the most part unnoticed. It is, however, chiefly as regards Chinese females that the coolies amuse themselves by indulging in the filthy observations to which their language so readily lends itself, and when a safe opportunity offers they carry the annoyance further by trying to damage their victims' clothes. We commend the matter to the attention of the Registrar-General and the Captain Superintendent of Police.

Touching the selling forward of Straits Insurance shares, as commented on by the *Shanghai Mercury*, much the same selling forward was done in Singapore by a Singapore broker. The market being smaller, much less was done, but the thing was done. It is possible that the Singapore broker who sold here may have inspired the Shanghai sales, and if so, he must have done pretty well. *Straits Times*.

RIOTS AT SHANGHAI

THE VOLUNTEERS AND FIREMEN CALLED OUT

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
Shanghai, 5th April, 2.14 p.m.

Wheelbarrow-men rioting. Policemen and others have been assaulted. One barrowman is reported to have been killed.

The Volunteers and Firemen have been called out and Bluejackets landed.

[The cause of the disturbance is presumably the raising of the licence fee for wheelbarrows. Complaints have been made of the obstruction caused in the streets by this class of traffic, and the object of raising the licence fee is to reduce the number of barrows plying in the Settlement.]

THE COUNCIL VACILLATING

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
Shanghai, 6th April, 9.46 p.m.

Shanghai is still guarded day and night by Volunteers and Bluejackets.

The forces are considered insufficient. The Council, advised by the Consuls, has decided to postpone the increase in the tax on wheelbarrows for three months. The public is indignant.

THE BEGINNING OF THE TROUBLE

Shanghai, 3rd April.

The increase of the wheelbarrow tax seems likely to cause some amount of trouble. Owing to the imposition of the extra tax all the licensed coolies in the Settlement have gone on strike. On Thursday afternoon a number of the strikers congregated in the neighbourhood of the Peking Road bridge and started to smash passing rickshas and wheelbarrows. On the appearance of the police they fled, but seven men were arrested and brought up at the Mixed Court yesterday morning, where they were given five days' imprisonment each.

A disturbance of a much more serious nature occurred on the Bund yesterday afternoon. A large mob of coolies had congregated near the Club, and attacked a passing handcart with the object of removing the wheels. A foreign constable on duty interfered, when the mob attacked him and succeeded in wresting his truncheon from him; in the struggle his helmet was also lost. He managed to get away from them and ran into the Club to telephone to the police station for assistance, and on his emerging from the Club the mob again attacked him, and had it not been for some gentlemen who ran out of the Club to his assistance he would have been very badly handled. On the appearance of a reinforcement of police the mob disappeared, but two arrests were made and the prisoners will be brought up at the Mixed Court. Extra police have been detailed for duty both on the French and English sides.—*N. C. Daily News*.

THE REBELLION IN THE PHILIPPINES

FURTHER SPANISH SUCCESSES

We have been favoured by Senor de Navarro, Spanish Consul, with a copy of the following telegram from the Secretary of the Governor General of the Philippines:—

MANILA, 3rd April, 1897, 3.46 p.m.

In successive victories Noveleta, Cavite Viejo, and Bincayan have been captured by our army. The rebels suffered great loss. It is seen that they are greatly demoralised by the moral effect caused by the extraordinary success of the campaign. Presentations for amnesty are considerable. Quietness is beginning and especially in the capital everything is as usual.

Messrs. Warner, Barnes & Co., in their circular, dated Manila, 29th March, say:—Imus, the principal fortification and headquarters of the insurgents, was taken on Thursday, the 25th, by the Spanish troops after a determined resistance. The capture was made by assault after 48 hours' bombard-

ment. The following day the Captain-General had published in the *Manila Gazette* the offer of a free pardon to all leaders and men who should surrender with their arms before the 11th April. It is believed there is now a good prospect of an early peace.

SUPREME COURT

1st April.

IN BANKRUPTCY

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

PORTUGUESE CLERKS AND THEIR DEBTS: A WARNING

M. H. Baptista, a clerk in the Ordnance Store Department, applied for a receiving order in bankruptcy.

Mr. C. D. Wilkinson appeared for the petitioner and said—I ask your Lordship to make a receiving order under the provisions of section 8 of the Bankruptcy Ordinance. The debtor is 23 years of age and is employed as a clerk in the Ordnance Store Department. The reason for his making this application to your Lordship is in consequence of his having been induced by a man also employed in the Ordnance Store Department to become security to a very large extent.

His Lordship—Security on a loan of money.

Mr. Wilkinson—Yes, your Lordship. The debts really amount to a very small sum in comparison with most bankruptcies. The total amount due from my client in respect of debts incurred by himself alone is under \$500; the debts incurred by him on behalf of this other man and one or two other friends of his amount to \$2,000 odd. Judgment has been obtained against him in respect, not of his own debts, but of those debts incurred by him on behalf of his friends, and orders have been made against him for monthly payments which he is quite unable to pay out of his salary. An execution has been issued against him and he is in daily fear of arrest. For that reason he comes before the Court, and he is prepared to suggest a scheme of arrangement by which he shall set aside a portion of his salary until the whole of his debts are paid.

His Lordship—What is his salary?

Mr. Wilkinson—\$60 a month. He is prepared to set aside \$25 a month.

His Lordship—Why is a man in that position so foolish?

Mr. Wilkinson—I cannot say; it is an extraordinary thing. There is another case and both are young men in the same office, the other petitioner in bankruptcy being twenty-one years of age. It is a most extraordinary thing. They were influenced by a man much their senior and in receipt of a salary of \$175 a month. There is not the slightest doubt that all these debts were incurred without the petitioner receiving any money, because I have a letter here from the man for whom he became security. He certified on his oath that the petitioners—Baptista and a young man named Barnes—took no share of the money advanced.

M. H. Baptista was then called. He said—I am 23 years of age and am a clerk in the Ordnance Store Department. My salary is \$60 a month. I have no private means of any kind. I have no means to pay my debts. My debts were all incurred through Mr. Allinson, of the Ordnance Store Department, for whom I became security for the sum of, roughly speaking, \$2,000. The total amount of my liabilities is \$2,600. I have been paying money on behalf of Mr. Allinson and I am not able to continue the payments. I have paid over \$70 for him. Judgments were obtained only this year against me for \$800 on account of this debt. In one case an order was made for payment by instalments at the rate of \$110 a month. Of course it is absolutely impossible for me to pay that out of my salary of \$60 a month. I did not appear at the trial.

His Lordship—Why did you not appear at the trial and tell the judge what your means are? How could he know what instalments to order if you did not attend the trial?

The answer of witness, who spoke in a very low tone, although requested by his Lordship to speak out, was not heard.

Mr. Wilkinson asked his Lordship to make a receiving order and to protect the debtor in the meantime.

His Lordship—Who is Mr. Allinson?

Witness—He is a foreman in the Ordnance Store Department.

Mr. Wilkinson—I believe, my lord, he is hopelessly in debt.

His Lordship—How old is he?

Witness—About 30.

Are you under him in any way?—No, my lord. How long ago is it since you became security?—Seven or eight months ago.

You did it at Mr. Allinson's request?—Yes.

In what form was the security given?—Joint and several promissory notes.

Who was the payee?—A man called Manah Singh.

Is he a soldier?—No, he is not a soldier.

Were there two or three notes or only one?—Three altogether.

What were the amounts?—The first one was for \$1,000; the second for \$800; and the third \$300. The last sum was payable eight months after date.

How could you be so foolish as to sign promissory notes?

The answer to this question was not heard by the reporters.

How much salary does Allinson get?—12/- a day.

Do you know how much Allinson has paid on these notes?—\$70 on one and \$25 on another.

How much have you paid?—\$20 on the first occasion and the balance of—[The remainder of this answer could not be heard.]

You have paid \$110 on account of the judgment debt?—I did not pay all; some of it was paid by Mr. Barnes.

Are you married?—I am single.

Are you living by yourself or with your father and mother?—My father is dead and I am living with my mother.

Has your mother got means?—I cannot say. I am not sure unless I inquire.

Is your mother a woman of property?—Yes, she has got means.

Do you support her or does she support herself?—I support her. I have also one brother.

Supposing you had a receiving order made, what can you pay out of \$60 a month?—I can pay \$25 a month out of my salary.

Do the Ordnance Store people know you are petitioning in bankruptcy?—Yes, the officer in charge knows.

Have you told him of the conduct of Allinson in getting you to sign these promissory notes?—Yes, I have told the head of the department.

How long have you been in the department?—Six years.

How were your private debts made up?—By becoming security for friends who have left the colony. I can prove that by letters I have received from them.

Where were you educated?—Witness was understood to say Queen's College.

His Lordship—By section 8 of Ordinance 1891 on a debtor presenting a petition alleging his inability to pay his debts that shall be deemed an act of bankruptcy and the Court must thereupon make a receiving order; but, of course, no doubt it was found that a number of people came into Court with petitions for receiving orders who had no means at all, and the administration of the law in bankruptcy probably became expensive and troublesome. Whether that is the reason or not the Legislature at any rate amended that section 8 by inserting the following proviso in Ordinance 1892—

Provided that it shall be lawful in the discretion of the Court to refuse an order unless satisfied that there will be substantial assets for division among the debtors.

Mr. Wilkinson—That was passed in order to meet cases not like the present one, but those in which a man has incurred liabilities by his own fault and has no means whatever, so that the clause should act as a punishment.

His Lordship—The point that the Legislature meant to insist upon was that the Court should be satisfied that there are substantial assets available for distribution.

Mr. Wilkinson—The Court shall use its discretion.

His Lordship—Quite so, founded upon the reason that there are practically no assets available.

Mr. Wilkinson—The debtor says he is able to pay \$25 a month, so in three or four years he will be able to pay up the full amount of his debts provided he is assisted by the other debtor, who will make a similar offer.

His Lordship—An offer of that kind is of a very shadowy character. Suppose he loses his place next month; he may not be able to get another. I have made orders in one or two cases of this kind lately and I want it to be understood that unless there are really some substantial assets available I will not make the receiving order. If men will be so foolish as this man has been they deserve to be punished. No one could have been more foolish in his conduct than this young man and if he has to bear the brunt it will be a lesson for him. I think the conduct of the man older than he ought to be known to the authorities. I make a receiving order in this case, but, Mr. Wilkinson, I hope it will be understood in future that I shall not make an order under such circumstances.

Mr. Wilkinson—I should not have applied unless under very extraordinary circumstances.

Mr. Wilkinson then applied for a receiving order on behalf of F. H. Barnes, a clerk in the Ordnance Store Department, and said that the case was precisely similar to the last one. The debts contracted for himself personally amounted to only \$50; the rest of the liabilities were incurred on behalf of the men Allinson and Baptista.

Francis Henry Barnes said—I am a clerk in the Ordnance Store Department. I am 21 years of age and receive a salary of \$40 a month. The total amount of my debts is \$1,200, and of that only \$49 was incurred on my own behalf. The balance was incurred by signing promissory notes in conjunction with Baptista. I have not received a cent of any of the moneys borrowed. I signed the notes because Mr. Allinson asked me to help him as he was in debt. My salary is \$40 a month. Judgment has been given against me in respect of one of the promissory notes, but I did not go to the Court. I can pay \$10 or \$15 a month.

His Lordship—I do hope these young clerks will not go and borrow money and come to this Court for the purpose of whitewashing themselves. I make an order in this case, but on future occasions, unless there are substantial assets, I shall refuse to make an order. There is some excuse in this case, as these men are young and were imposed upon by this man Allinson. They are getting a good salary and they ought to know better than lend themselves to this sort of thing.

The next applicant for a receiving order was A. M. Baptista, a clerk in the employ of Mr. Granville Sharp.

Mr. Looker appeared for the debtor, who, he said, was in receipt of \$95 a month. He had at various times during the past year incurred liabilities, chiefly on promissory notes, to the amount of about \$2,000. He had also incurred debts by money which he was obliged to obtain to pay for doctors during his wife's illness, for expenses incurred at her death, and also during the sickness of his children and other necessary expenditure. He lived at 8, Old Bailey, with his mother and his three children and he paid his mother \$25 a month. He was able to pay instalments of \$50 a month to his creditors, and this would leave him \$45 to live upon.

The debtor said he was employed in the office of Mr. Granville Sharp. He commenced to borrow money four years ago. Recently judgment was entered against him for \$600. Mr. Sharp did not know he was applying for a receiving order.

His Lordship granted a receiving order and again pointed out that the Court would in future exercise a more stringent discretion in such cases. If people were so foolish as to get themselves into trouble of this kind they would have to take the consequences.

6th April.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH, ACTING PUISNE JUDGE.

HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LIMITED v. PAUL BOHM.

The plaintiff company sought to recover \$577 from the defendant for work done at the Windsor Hotel.

Mr. Gage (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Master, solicitors) appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Bowley (of Mr. Panny, solicitor) represented the defendant.

The plaintiffs alleged that they put a new instalment of electric balls and also a new set of wires at the Windsor Hotel at the direction of the defendant, who is the proprietor. Mr. Silat, of Messrs. E. D. Sassoon and Co., who are the agents for the owners of the hotel, said no authority was given to the defendant to pledge Messrs. Sassoon & Co.'s credit.

The defence was that defendant did not personally give the order, but that he thought the work was being carried on under instruction from Messrs. Sassoon & Co. In support of his statement he produced a letter written by Messrs. Sassoon & Co. who, in renewing the lease, said they would undertake internal and external repairs once.

Judgment was reserved.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At a monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held in the Chamber Room on the 27th March, at 11.15 a.m.—Present: Messrs. A. McConachie (Chairman), H. Smith (Vice-Chairman), J. J. Bell-Irving, R. M. Gray, St. C. Michaelson, N. A. Siebs, T. H. Whitehead, and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

NEW MEMBER OF COMMITTEE.

Mr. R. M. Gray, having accepted the invitation to rejoin the Committee, took his seat.

THE LIGHT DUES.

Read letter from Singapore Chamber, dated 18th February, in acknowledgment of Chamber's circular letter of 28th January and enclosures on the subject of the Light Dues, expressing sympathy with the views of this Chamber.

Also read letter from Shanghai Chamber, dated 25th February, also in acknowledgment of circular letter of 28th January, asking to be "more fully informed regarding all the circumstances" before supporting the protest.

Resolved to reply to effect that the Chamber did not wish Shanghai Chamber to go into details; it was a question of principle affecting the freedom of the port on which they had asked co-operation.

OFFICIAL TELEGRAPH CODE VOCABULARY.

Read letter from General Post Office, dated London, 25th January, announcing that the Director of the International Telegraph Office at Bern had consented to extend the date for reception of private codes to 31st March. Letter was acknowledged on the 1st March and copies sent to local Press.

HONGKONG AND THE POSTAL SUBSIDY.

It was announced that two meetings of the sub-Committee appointed to consider this question had been held, and as one result, a letter was received on the 12th inst. from the Government substituting an amended calculation by the local Postmaster-General, showing an estimate, on the mileage basis, of £11,896, instead of £17,367, first arrived at, as this colony's share of the subsidy. The sub-Committee are considering certain returns and figures supplied by the Postmaster-General, but need others they have been unable to obtain.

OPENING OF THE WEST RIVER TO TRADE.

The letter of the Colonial Secretary enclosing copy of the despatch from H. B. M.'s Minister at Peking to H. B. the Governor, announcing the conclusion of a convention under which the Chinese Government undertake to open the West River to foreign trade and navigation (already supplied to the Press) was laid on the table, with reply acknowledging receipt of same.

(Correspondence.)

THE LIGHT DUES.

Chamber of Commerce, Singapore, 18th Feb. 1897.

R. Chatterton Wilcox, Esq., Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

Dear Sir, I have to acknowledge the receipt on 2nd instant of your circular letter of 28th

submit forwarding copies of petition by your local Steamer Agents and of letter by the Chamber addressed to your Government on the subject of the Light Dues on vessels entering the port of Hongkong.

With the views therein expressed as to the un wisdom and in the case of a free port, injustice of taxing shipping for the benefit of the general revenue of a colony, my Committee are in entire sympathy and are prepared to co-operate with your Chamber in support of that principle.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant.

ALEX. JAS. GUNN,
Secretary.

Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce,
Shanghai, 25th February 1897.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong.

Dear Sir,—Your letter of 20th ult., with enclosures, has had the careful consideration of my Committee, and I am directed to inform you that this Chamber is entirely in accord with your protest against the levying of Light Dues on shipping for any other than lighthouse purposes; and in view of the statement made by the Hongkong Government at the time when the tax was originally imposed, that it was only levied in order to pay for the actual cost of the Gap Rock lighthouse and would be withdrawn when that was accomplished, my Committee fail to see justification for any departure on the part of the Government from the undertaking then given. I am, however, desirous to add that if you wish this Chamber to address the Home Authorities in support of your protest, it is desirable that we should be more fully informed regarding all the circumstances of the case, and particularly as to the reasons upon which the Colonial Government base their proposal to continue the taxation complained of.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

DRUMMOND HAY,
Secretary.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 30th March, 1897.

The Secretary, Shanghai Chamber of Commerce,

Dear Sir,—I have to acknowledge your favour of the 25th ult., and my Committee are glad to learn that your Chamber is entirely in accord with our "protest against the levying of Light Dues on shipping for any other than lighthouse purposes," but are not able to go into the further question of the grounds which the Government may have for its proposal to continue the impost. The Government may or may not have good reasons for wishing to continue this tax; but this Chamber is contending, first for the redemption of an explicit pledge, and secondly—which is of even greater importance—for the broad principle of the maintenance intact of the freedom of the port. On this principle this Chamber seeks your support without asking you to specially address the Home Authorities or to consider for what reason the Colonial Government desire to levy such tax for purposes of general revenue.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

R. CHATBERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

THE POSTAL SUBSIDY.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
11th March, 1897.

Sir,—In continuation of my letter No. 197 of the 3rd ultimo, I am directed to forward the enclosed copy of an amended calculation by the Postmaster-General, and to request you to be good enough to substitute it for the one previously forwarded which was, through an inadvertence, based on the amount of the preceding contract with the P. & O. Company instead of that now in force.

I understand that the Postmaster-General has already informed you of the error.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

P.S.—I am to add that His Excellency will be glad if the Chamber of Commerce will

be so good as to furnish him with their views on this subject as soon as possible.

J. H. S. L.

The Secretary of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, &c. &c. &c.

[The amended calculation enclosed with the above sets out the figures for each section of the service and arrives at the result that Hongkong's share of the cost is £15,264.25 and her share of the sea postage £3,368.20, leaving as the colony's approximate share of the subsidy the sum of £11,896.05.]

INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

The Honorary Treasurer of the Indian Famine Relief Fund begs to acknowledge receipt of the undernoted subscriptions:—

Already acknowledged	\$49,446.53
Collection in St. John's Cathedral	250
St. C. Michaelson	153.47
Hon. T. H. Whitehead	100
H'kong Amateur Dramatic Club	100
N. A. Siebs	50
C. Beurmann	50
Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving	50
Don Jose de Navarro	30
A. Coxon (extra subscription)	25
G. Stewart (do.)	25
W. Macbean	25
Omega	17.09
J. M. Armstrong	15
George Weller	10
A. & R.	5

\$50,072.09

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—The subscription lists in aid of the famine in India having closed on the 31st ultimo, on behalf of the Committee I beg to inform the subscribers to the fund that the subscriptions reached a total of \$50,072.09.

The whole of this sum has been remitted to the Hon. Secretary of the Central Relief Fund at Calcutta in three instalments as follows:—

1st instalment Rs. 50,000 @ 164	= \$30,487.50
2nd " " 20,000 @ 165½	= \$12,084.59
3rd " " 12,000 @ 160	= \$ 7,500.00

\$50,072.09

The first and second instalments have been duly acknowledged with thanks.

The third instalment was forwarded yesterday.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 2nd April, 1897.

The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Hon. Secretary of the Indian Famine Fund, informs us that the following telegram has been received from Sir Francis Maclean, Chairman, Famine Fund, Calcutta:—Our warmest thanks for your last contribution of 12,000 rupees. We are most grateful.

CAPTAIN HUGH CRAIG HONOURED.

Captain Hugh Craig, of the E. & A. steamer *Menmuir*, has received the following Royal Letter from Charles I., King of Portugal, informing him that the Knighthood of the Royal Military Order of Our Lord Jesus Christ has been conferred upon him. This honour, we understand, is in recognition of services rendered in connection with the transport of officials, troops, &c., during the Timor rebellion. The insignia are now on their way out from Portugal and will be presented to Captain Craig in about six weeks at Macao:—

"Hugh Craig, Commander of the steamer *Menmuir*, of the Eastern and Australian Steamship Company.

"I, King of Portugal and of Algarves, &c., &c., send you greeting.

"Considering the valuable qualities of your good self, and wishing to testify publicly our munificence.—We have much pleasure in conferring on your good self the Knighthood of the Royal Military Order of Our Lord Jesus Christ, which we now beg to inform your good self, and in order that you may wear the respective insignias, we send your good self this Royal Letter.

Written in the Royal Palace of Necessades, on the 5th day of November, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-Six.

(Sgd.) CHARLES I., King.

(Sgd.) JOAO FERREIRI FRANCISCO
PINTOS COSTELLO, Minister
for Foreign Affairs.

LONDON COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The results of the examination in Music held on January 16th in the City Hall have just been officially declared. The following is a list of successful candidates. Those marked D are pupils at the Diocesan School, and taught by Mrs. Piercy; those marked V are pupils at the Victoria English School, and taught by Miss L. Lawrence; those marked * were prepared by Mr. Emil Danenberg.

THEORY OF MUSIC.

Miss Lillian B. Crawford, "Associate in Music" (A. Mus. L. C. M.).

Senior Pass Section.—Emil Danenberg, First Class.

Junior Pass Section.—(D.) Edward S. Ford, First Class.

Elementary Section.—* Margaret Clinck, First Class.

PIANOFORTE PLAYING.

Advanced Senior Section.—Emil Danenberg, First Class.

Intermediate Section.—(D.) Edward S. Ford, First Class; Judith Danenberg, Second Class.

Elementary Section.—(V.) Evalyn Lewis, First Class Honours; (D.) Charles E. Hastings, First Class Honours; * Alfred E. Humphreys, First Class Honours; * Cecil Humphreys, First Class; Frank M. L. Crawford, First Class; * M. A. Hyndman, First Class; (V.) Mary Palmer, Second Class; * Maria Rocha, Second Class; (D.) W. J. Clerihew, Second Class.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE MEMORIAL.

COMPLETE LIST OF SUGGESTIONS.

We give below a complete list of suggestions, twenty in number, sent in to Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, hon. Secretary to the Diamond Jubilee Committee, for the establishment of a permanent memorial in commemoration of the completion of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign:—

PROPOSER

SUGGESTIONS

- 1.—A. Coxon. Oil Painting of H.M. the Queen to be hung in the City Hall.
- 2.—Board of Managers' Home. Addition of a storey to the Queen's Storey.
- 3.—J. McKie and others. Erection of a New City Hall.
- 4.—Rev. G. R. Valls. Erection of an Institute for the use of Soldiers and Naval Seamen.
- 5.—J. P. Cottam. Erection of a Stone Pier or Landing Stage.
- 6.—F. H. May. Erection of a Women's and Children's Hospital in connection with the Civil Hospital.
- 7.—F. A. Cooper. Completion of the Statue of H.M. the Queen.
- 8.—R. K. Leigh. Completion of the Statue of H.M. the Queen and a new Clock Tower.
- 9.—Rev. A. Iliff and others. Purchase of enlarged premises to replace the Seamen's Coffee House.
- 10.—J. C. Thomson. Endowment of a College of Medicine for Chinese.
- 11.—T. Ho. 1.—Industrial Museum (B). 2.—Creation of a cosmopolitan Club and erection of a Club House to be called "The Jubilee Club."
- 12.—Henry Humphreys. 1.—Public School at the Peak for European Boys and Girls. 2.—A new Clock Tower on the Reclamation. 3.—Improvement of the Statue of H.M. the Queen.
- 13.—M. J. D. Stephens. Free Library and Hall.

- 14.—A Woman Hospital for Women and Nurses' Training Institute.
- 15.—Cheaney Duncan (1) Vegetable Garden for Europeans.
(2) Improvement of Pedder's Wharf.
- 16.—G. Stewart and others Road round the Island or along the South side of it.
- 16A.—A. Denison Letter regarding road round the Island.
- 17.—General Black Road from Wanchai to Wongneichong Gap, to be called the "Queen's Link."
- 18.—Un Huk-oh Erection of two Clock Towers East near Naval Hospital and West near Chinese Recreation Ground.
- 19.—Wong Juk-oh Conversion of Queen's College into an University.
- 20.—Chan Shiu Abolition of the Light and Pass Ordinance and erection of a Light Tower.

Some of the letters forwarding suggestions have already appeared in print and we have no doubt that many of the others will be read with considerable interest.

Mr. A. Coxon says that one permanent memorial should be a first rate copy of the best and latest oil portrait of Her Majesty, to be hung, with Her Majesty's permission, in the City Hall.

The following embodies the suggestions made by the Board of Management of the Sailors' Home.—The Hongkong Sailors' Home was originally built in 1861 for the benefit of the European sailors of the mercantile marine frequenting the port. The cost was defrayed by public subscription, the Government having granted a site at a nominal rental. For several years past the Institution has been self supporting. The ever increasing importance of Hongkong as a shipping centre causes demands on the accommodation of the Home which the present buildings are unable to provide, and it is therefore proposed to increase the accommodation either by adding another storey to the present building or in some other way. The cost is estimated to be \$12,000 or \$15,000. The whole capital of the Home amounts to \$18,000. We suggest that a grant from the "Diamond Jubilee" Funds towards the addition of a "Queen's" storey, or "Queen's" wing, would be a fitting commemoration of the growth of Hongkong as a shipping port of the Empire during 56 years of Her Majesty's reign.

The suggestion in favour of a new City Hall is signed by Messrs. J. McKie, J. H. Lewis, L. K. Davis, T. F. Hough, F. Maitland, H. Sparrow, S. Deacon, E. F. Mackay, G. H. Potts, M. Jones, E. A. Ram, C. H. Gale, C. H. Grace, and A. Coxon; and they suggest:—That Sir Robert Jardine and the other proprietors of the City Hall be requested to present these buildings and the ground upon which they stand to the community of Hongkong. That in accepting such a magnificent offer the community of Hongkong undertake to pull down the present buildings, and erect in their stead a substantial, handsome, and conveniently arranged structure, which shall at once commemorate a unique reign, and, as a City Hall, be a credit and pride to the colony.

Mr. J. P. Cottam suggests that a massive stone pier or landing stage be carried out from the Praya, with substantial iron pavilions (typhoon proof), provided with seats, and laid out with palms and small trees. This would fill a great want for those that use the ferries, also for the general harbour traffic, and be a great boon during the bathing season, especially for ladies and children waiting for their respective launches. There might also be added a suitable resting place for the chair and ricksha coolies, and any other useful additions that may come in afterwards.

In forwarding his suggestion for the erection of a Women and Children's Hospital in connection with the Civil Hospital Hon. F. H. May writes:—"Such a Hospital would meet a pressing want in the colony, as the only accommodation of such a nature open to all nationalities consists at present of one general ward in the Govern-

ment Civil Hospital containing 14 beds, and two private paying wards containing 4 beds in the same Institution. These latter are, however, not always available for the treatment of women. There is at present no separate accommodation for children of all nationalities. The undesirability of children being treated in a general ward with adults is obvious, and at present it is found to prevent parents and guardians availing themselves of the advantages of hospital treatment for children. In my opinion one of the principal objects to be aimed at in such a memorial as the one for which the Committee have invited suggestions is that it should benefit all classes and nationalities residing under British rule. How the project I put forward would fulfil this object I have now briefly to show. The new Hospital, as already stated, would provide accommodation for women and children, and the present general ward for women and children, and the two occasional private wards for women would be available for the treatment of the poor and destitute sick irrespective of nationality, thus increasing the accommodation for males in the existing Hospital by 18 beds. The new Hospital should contain three general wards, two for women of 14 beds each, and one for children of 8 beds, also 4 private female wards containing 2 beds each, in all 44 beds. I think that a suitable building, together with the necessary out-offices, could be erected on a suitable site which is available in the Hospital grounds for a sum of \$60,000. The existence of such an Institution as this in connection with the Civil Hospital, would afford admirable opportunities for those desiring to be trained as nurses, to serve their terms of probation. Not only would they have the opportunity of commencing such training in the Women and Children's wards in accordance with the general practice in England, but they would further have the opportunity of completing such training in the general wards of the Civil Hospital, including those of the lying-in Hospital. The desirability of such an Institution is, I think, obvious, and I am of opinion that its connection with the Civil Hospital will prove the most economical means of acquiring the benefits to be derived therefrom, and afford the best opportunities for the training of nurses to meet the local requirements of the community. In conclusion, I would point out that judging from the expressed wishes of Her Majesty as reported in recent newspapers from England, the memorial I propose would probably give more gratification to Her Majesty than any other form of commemoration.

Hon. F. A. Cooper, in his letter, draws the attention of the Committee to the unfinished state of the Queen's Statue and suggests the completing the statue in accordance with the original design which included four groups of figures.

In support of the purchase of enlarged premises to replace the present Seamen's Coffee House, Messrs. A. Iliff (Chaplain), A. P. MacEwen, Edward Osborne, and W. B. Allen (Secretary) write as follows:—The need of enlarged premises to replace the present Seamen's Coffee House in Queen's Road West has long been felt, and both the late and present chaplains have endeavoured to raise a fund for the purpose. The great difficulty in the way of this project hitherto has been to obtain a suitable building on reasonable terms. It is imperative that an institution of this character should be in a central position in order to attract the attention of seamen as they come ashore, but the rent of a house if obtainable in this part of the town of sufficient size to meet all requirements would be practically prohibitive if the Coffee House was to continue to be self-supporting. It has, however, been ascertained that a building (at present a native tea house) possessing ample accommodation and in a very convenient situation in Queen's Road could be acquired by purchase. The proprietor asks between \$30,000 and \$40,000 for the house and declines to lease. We feel that so large a sum could not possibly be raised by individual effort, and that, failing substantial support from other sources, there would be no alternative but to continue the present cramped and inadequate quarters for which a high and increasing rent is being paid. We beg therefore to commend this object to the favourable consideration of

the Jubilee Committee as being very worthy of their support, realizing as we do the dependence of the colony on the naval and mercantile marine, and consequently the fitting character of an Institution for the benefit of seamen as a Memorial of Her Majesty's reign.

Mr. Tam Ho, contractor, No. 2 Pottinger Street, words his suggestion in the following terms:—(1) To remove the present Harbour Master's Offices where a Public Showing Hall should be erected for receiving samples and photographs of all sorts of articles sent in by agents or makers with prices and addresses attached, and any one should be admitted to see the samples and know the prices in order to improve the commerce of this colony. (2) On the new reclamation, the front of the present Harbour Master's Offices where a Club House with Library should be erected and will be named "The Jubilee Club," and gentlemen of all nations should be accepted to be members so that communications may be conveniently received between each other. (3) The new Harbour Master's Offices should be erected on the vacant ground near the Government Store at Wanchai, where there are ample and suitable places for ships or junks owing to the centre portion of this Harbour being so closed with ships, &c., that the steamers could not find their own way to proceed, but the west end of the Harbour is also not safe for mooring ships, so I recommend the above place for the new Harbour Master's Offices.

Mr. M. J. D. Stephens writes as follows in regard to his suggestion for a Free Library and Hall:—I would suggest to the Committee as a fitting permanent Memorial a Free Library and Hall adjacent, to be erected as near as possible to the Queen's Statue and to be incorporated with it. The Library to be formed on the lines, as far as possible, of the free libraries of late years erected in many of the large towns of England. Such a library would be of great use to a class of people who have of late years arisen in the colony, many of whom will know no other place than Hongkong.

Mr. Un Huk Cho gives a unique reason for his suggestion of two clock towers. He said there were sixty seconds in a minute and sixty minutes in an hour, and the clocks would therefore be the most appropriate memorials of the completion of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign.

Mr. A. Denison, in supporting the suggestion for a road round the island, points out that the cost would not, as was generally thought, amount to over a million dollars. He says that for a total expenditure of \$75,000 a continuous road, fairly level, would be obtained of a total length of 22 miles, or, say, from the Queen's Statue to Tytam-tuk, 15 miles. He puts down \$60,000 as the cost of the portion of the road from Kennedytown to the junction with the present Aberdeen Road, and \$15,000 for improving the existing road beyond that point.

"THE QUEEN'S LINK."

Major-General Black writes as follows:—
Hongkong, 31st March, 1897.

Sir,—Agreeably to your request for suggestions for commemorating in some permanent way the anniversary of Her Majesty's 60th year of reign, I beg leave to suggest the construction of a road from Wanchai to Wongneichong Gap across the pathless bulk of Mount Cameron and Mount Nicholson, to be called "The Queen's Link."

I need hardly urge the appropriateness of a road to mark a great occasion; roads are the precursors of progress and civilization; they distinguish a rising from a barbarous state; the "Roman Way" and "Watling Street" remain to this day in Great Britain, and the roads by which the Imperial Legions marched through Italy, Gaul, and Spain still serve as means of communication.

The reasons in favour of this road are:—

1st.—Roads for recreation and health are one of the great wants in this island. Macao shames us in this respect. The one now suggested would open a great tract at present pathless, and immensely increase the range of locomotion from the Peak, the inhabitants of which yearly growing in number are now painfully restricted.

2nd.—The building sites at the Peak are now fully taken up; the "Queen's Link" would give access to many sites, notably on the great spur

running southward from Mount Cameron. It would greatly increase the mobility and therefore the defensive power of the garrison. Hald together on its ridge, troops could wait until the faints had been made, and the real landing place declared, when they could at once move East or West to the valley leading therefrom. It would be out of place to describe this matter here more in detail, but a little consideration will make clear its bearing on the defence.

It is appropriate that the road should be made by the colony, because it is through their choice of constructing their great reservoir on the Tytam slope instead of as recommended on the north slope of Quarry Bay that the task of defending the water supply has been greatly increased and the need of this connecting link been brought about.

Although it would be out of place to criticise the scheme for the construction of a road round the island, the utility of which I readily concede, I take exception to the statements made as to its defensive value, because our troops would move on the inner line, not on its circumference.

The "Queen's Link" could be begun and completed in this year of grace at a cost not exceeding \$50,000.—I am, yours truly,

W. BLACK.

HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND NURSES' TRAINING INSTITUTE.

The following is the letter suggesting a Hospital for Women and Nurses' Training Institute:—

Hongkong, 30th March, 1897.

Sir,—In response to the invitation of the Committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor to make arrangements for celebrating the completion of the 60th year of the reign of Her Majesty the Queen, I beg to suggest, for the consideration of the Committee, that the most appropriate permanent memorial in this colony would be a Hospital for Women, with a Training Institute for Nurses in connection therewith.

There is perhaps nothing in which progress has been more marked during the Queen's reign than in the care and treatment, and especially the nursing, of the sick. In recent years hospitals, both general and special, have been multiplied in the Mother Country and in her Colonies, and attention has been more and more directed to the provision of trained nurses for the community. It may safely be said that in Her Majesty's dominions there are few, if any, cities or towns of 200,000 which do not number among their charitable institutions a Hospital for Women and a Training Institute for Nurses.

It must be admitted that we have not in this colony kept pace with the progress of the times in these respects. No special provision is made for the treatment of the diseases of women and children. There is no system in operation for the examination and granting of certificates of competency to midwives. The case is nearly as bad with regard to the question of competent nursing for the sick. With the limited staff available it is difficult for a well-to-do European to make sure of obtaining the services of a trained and efficient nurse. It is practically impossible for a poor person, especially for a poor Chinese person, to do so. Yet a little reflection will show that there must be a large number of women in this colony who would be benefited either directly or indirectly, by the establishment of a Hospital for Women. It is still more evident that an institution for the training and providing of skilled nurses would, in a very material degree, promote the welfare and alleviate the sufferings of all classes of the community.

Having regard to the character of the Queen and to her great and never-failing sympathy for the wants and sorrows of her subjects, I submit that no memorial of her record reign could be more appropriate in a personal sense or more pleasing to Her Majesty than that which I have ventured to indicate, and there are excellent precedents on which to rest this opinion. In 1887 it was by the Queen's express wish that the greater portion of the offerings made by her women subjects in celebration of her jubilee of that year was devoted to the foundation and endowment

of the Queen Victoria Institute for Nurses, an institution specially intended for the providing of trained nurses for the poorer classes. In India, I believe I am right in saying, during the same year and by way of commemorating the same jubilee, the Marchioness of Dufferin established the Dufferin Fund for the purpose of furnishing competent medical aid to the women of that country. In the present year the principal and it may also be said the national mode of celebrating the Diamond Jubilee is the establishment, under the auspices of the Prince of Wales, of a fund for the better and more permanent endowment of the London hospitals.

At present it does not appear to be necessary to do more than indicate the general outlines of the scheme which I am submitting for the consideration of the Committee. These outlines are as follow:—

- 1.—The Hospital and the Institute to be contiguous of one another; to be erected at some convenient site on the higher ground of the city; and to be under European management.
- 2.—The Hospital to contain beds; to be confined to surgical and non-infectious medical cases; to have lying-in ward, and to admit a limited number of children. Europeans and the wealthier Chinese would gladly pay, I am sure, any suitable charges fixed.
- 3.—The Institute to have accommodation, including board and lodging, for resident nurses, to provide teaching and training, where necessary, for them, also for non-resident women under special circumstances, to supply nurses for paying patients at a reasonable tariff of charges and gratuitously for the poor; and to be under the supervision of an experienced matron.
- 4.—The nurses to be of different nationalities. Chinese women are gentle and patient and do, in my experience, with adequate training, make excellent nurses.
- 5.—A system of training midwives to be worked in connection with the Institute, when competent; candidates should receive certificates, which should be recognised by law.

One of the incidental advantages of carrying out these proposals would probably be that suitable occupation would be found for a certain number of young Eurasians, of the clever and bright women, who at present find it difficult or impossible to make an independent livelihood and whose lot is usually a very sad one. Further, it may be hoped that nurses trained at the Institute will gradually go into the nearer provinces of the mainland, and help to spread amongst the Chinese one of the distinctive blessings of Western civilisation.

In conclusion, I think it may fairly be urged that the pride and thankfulness with which we all regard the life and work of our gracious Sovereign and her marvellous reign cannot find a more fitting or more beneficent outcome than the inauguration of a scheme which will help materially to increase the comfort and health, and consequently the happiness, of her loyal people in this colony. It may not be out of place for a woman to add that it seems suitable that a woman's reign should be commemorated by something associated with women's work.

The short time allowed has made it impossible to prepare and send this letter to be read and signed by the ladies of the colony, but I enclose a résumé of the above scheme which I have endeavoured to circulate, and also a list of those who were willing to give their names and support.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

A WOMAN.

A SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' INSTITUTE

The Rev. G. R. Vallings writes as follows:—

Hongkong, 29th March, 1897.

To the Hon. J. Stewart Lockhart, Secretary of the Jubilee Committee.

Sir,—The need of an Institute for the use of soldiers and naval seamen, similar to those existing in so many other parts of the Empire, has been long felt in Hongkong, and in answer to the appeal of the Committee, I

would suggest the erection of such a building.

The troops are necessary to the very existence of the colony; moreover, during the plague and the strike their voluntary services proved of the utmost benefit.

If it be objected that it is not the business of the colony to provide for the welfare of our army and navy, surely the neglect of others is no excuse for withholding our charity, and there can be no worthier or more enlightened memorial of Her Gracious Majesty's reign than a Home which can increase the permanent welfare of so large a body of fellow Europeans.

With our unlimited forms and means of public amusement in this colony few of us realize how hard it is for a soldier to find a source of recreation in the evening. To meet this want some rooms in Queen's Road East have for the past eight years been hired by private individuals; but the inevitable drawbacks of a native built house, coupled with a very heavy rent, have seriously hampered any beneficial results.

The fact that this Institute has continued to exist, to do good, and to pay its own way in spite of these disadvantages seems a strong assurance that with more suitable and commodious quarters it would be a more permanent influence for good, while it stands as a lasting memorial of the loyalty of Hongkong, which would thereby crown its charity towards famine-stricken India by remembering the soldiers and sailors who hold for our gracious Queen the mighty empire over which she rules.—I have, sir, the honour to be, your obedient servant,

GEORGE R. VALLINGS,

Chaplain to the Garrison.

PROPOSED COLLEGE OF MEDICINE FOR CHINESE.

Dr. Thomson writes as follows:—

College of Medicine for Chinese,
Hongkong, 30th March, 1897.

Sir,—I have the honour, by direction of the Court of the Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese, to request you to place before the Jubilee Committee the request of the Court that the Committee should make the celebration of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign in Hongkong take the form of an effort to place the College of Medicine for Chinese on a permanent basis.

The College was established in 1887 for the purpose of teaching medicine, surgery, and midwifery, in all their departments, to Chinese and such others as might be willing to avail themselves of the privileges it offers.

Its government and the entire control and management of all affairs, concerns, and property connected with it are vested in a Court, consisting of the following:—

The Rector, elected by the General Council and the students every two years;

An Assessor, nominated by the Rector;

The Standing Council of the College, appointed by the Court;

The Dean, representing the Senate;

A Representative of the General Council;

A Representative of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals;

The Secretary, appointed by the Court.

The Senate, consisting of the Lecturers of the College, deals, subject to the supervision of the Court, with all matters concerning the courses of study to be pursued, arrangements for professional examinations, and the discipline of the College.

The General Council consists of all persons holding office or appointment in the College, the Licentiates of the College, and Benefactors of the College nominated by the Court to the Council. It is a purely deliberative body, and has for its function the promotion of the general interests of the College. It has a direct representative in the Court, and also takes part in the election of the Rector.

The Lecturers are members of the medical profession practising in the colony, along with a few other gentlemen of scientific training and knowledge, who give their services without any remuneration whatever.

The authorities of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals place certain rooms in these institutions at the disposal of the College for purposes of lectures and demonstrations, and allow the teachers and students the use of

forwards for purposes of clinical instruction. The minimum period of study is five years, and all professional examinations are conducted by independent examiners, assisted by the lecturers on the subjects under examination.

Seven students have successfully completed this curriculum, but as the license of the College is not yet recognised by the Government they have not been encouraged to settle in Hongkong, and have had to go into practice elsewhere. The reason for such non-recognition of the license has been the uncertainty involved in the fact that thus far the College has been entirely dependent on the personal enthusiasm of a few of its promoters. Fourteen Chinese students are at the present time engaged in study at various stages of the curriculum, and there is a steady improvement in the preliminary training of the students.

I have thus placed before you a brief *resumé* of the constitution and present position of the College to show that the training of Chinese in Western medicine and surgery is practicable, and that Chinese are forthcoming able and willing to be thus trained.

During recent years there has been a growing feeling in the colony that in the interests of the general community the Chinese part of the population can no longer be permitted to ignore the existence of the Western sanitary science, or to treat their sick entirely after Chinese methods, and a Chinese trained in Western medicine is now established as an integral part of the Tungwa Hospital. The beginning thus made can only be extended to the mass of the population when larger numbers of such qualified doctors can be trained and sent forth to minister to the steadily increasing native population, and to dissipate the ignorance which has thus far prevailed among the Chinese in regard to all matters medical and sanitary.

The members of the Court and the gentlemen through whose self-sacrificing and entirely gratuitous efforts the work of the College has thus far been carried on feel that the time is ripe for the public to take up and carry forward to a larger success than has yet been possible a movement that has the public good as its ultimate object. If a suitable building were provided, more students could be taken in and a more finished training could be given them, and if a resident Professor or Principal were brought from England to superintend and guide the work, a unity and solidity would at once result, which would justify the recognition of the license by the Government, and the establishment of the students, as they complete their curricula, among the Chinese community of Hongkong, instead of their being lost to the colony, as has hitherto been the case.

These are the objects which the Court have before them in suggesting that the Jubilee celebration should take the form of establishing the College on a sound basis. They estimate that a sum of \$40,000 to \$50,000 would be required to purchase a suitable site and erect a building with the necessary accommodation, and that a fund yielding an annual income of \$5,500 to \$6,000 would be necessary to pay the salary of a resident tutor, small honoraria to other lecturers, and working expenses.

I am directed by the Court to very respectfully direct your attention to the fact that Her Majesty the Queen has ever shown a very deep personal interest in objects similar to those for the promotion of which the College exists, as evidenced by her promotion of district nursing schemes throughout Great Britain and the great Association of Queen's Nurses in Ireland, and by the present action of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales in placing himself at the head of a movement to substantially augment the income of London hospitals as a main feature of the Jubilee Celebration in London. Rumours are current, too, that in Canada and elsewhere funds collected at this time will be expended in ameliorating the condition of the sick poor, that form of charity being the one most in accord with the known wishes of Her Majesty the Queen. The Court feel therefore that their proposal to the Jubilee Committee is reasonable, and are confident that the recommendation of the scheme to the general community by such an influential Committee would secure a response that would easily realize the fund required for the purposes specified in this

letter. I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN C. THOMSON, M.D.

Hon. Secretary,

College of Medicine for Chinese.

The Hon. J. H. STEWART-LOCKHART, Hon. Secretary, Jubilee Committee.

THE COMMITTEE'S PROCEEDINGS.

At the meeting of the Diamond Jubilee Committee on the 5th April the various schemes for a permanent memorial were taken into consideration. There were in all twenty proposals of which fourteen were rejected and the remainder referred to a sub-committee for examination and report. The choice, we believe, lies between the proposed hospital for women with training institute for nurses, the College of Medicine, and the road round the island. Two of the other proposals that remain under consideration may be taken as an addition to the principal memorial; they are, an oil painting of Her Majesty to be placed in the City Hall and the completion of the Queen's statue. The remaining proposal is that of the erection of a women's and children's hospital in connection with the Civil Hospital, which is a variation of the scheme for a women's hospital and nursing institute and the two will no doubt be considered in combination.

It was decided by the meeting that on Sunday, 20th June, the date fixed for the day of thanksgiving, the Committee should meet in the Council Chamber, before the morning service, and proceed in a body to St. John's Cathedral Church; that the Hon. Secretary should communicate with the other religious bodies in the colony, inviting them also to make arrangements for holding a thanksgiving service in their respective churches; that Tuesday and Wednesday, 22nd and 23rd June, should be made public holidays; that on Tuesday, the 22nd, arrangements should be made for the presentation of the Address to the Queen in the forenoon at Government House, in the afternoon for a review of the military and naval forces at the Happy Valley, and in the evening for a display of fireworks at convenient spots to be carefully selected; and that on Wednesday, the 23rd, a gymkhana and athletic sports should be held at Happy Valley in the afternoon, a programme to be drawn up to attract all classes of the community. If it is found practicable, and agreeable to the wishes of the Chinese, a dragon-boat festival is to be promoted, and the Government are to be requested to allow Chinese theatres to remain open day and night on the two holidays.

THE SUPPLY OF NURSES IN HONGKONG.

We have had forwarded to us from the Colonial Secretary's Office a series of official "Papers on the subject of Nurses and the Training of Nurses." The papers are prefaced by the following memorandum by the Colonial Secretary:—

Your Excellency,—Two Circular despatches have been received from the Secretary of State, regarding the providing of trained nurses for the Colonies, dated the 26th and 27th June respectively.

The despatch dated the 26th June transmits the proceedings and recommendations of Dr. Gage Brown and other medical gentlemen, who, at the request of the Secretary of State, considered the question of providing trained nurses in Crown Colonies, and requests that you will be good enough to report to the Secretary of State the views of your Government on the suggestions of the Conference with regard to the particular circumstances of Hongkong.

The despatch dated the 27th June transmits the prospectus of the Colonial Nursing Association for providing trained private nurses in Crown Colonies, and recommends that, although the Scheme is entirely independent of the Government, you should do all in your power to encourage it if the want which it is intended to supply exists in Hongkong.

These two despatches were referred to the Colonial Surgeon for consideration and report. On the 19th September the Colonial Surgeon reported that he had caused the despatches to

be circulated among the medical gentlemen in the Colony and had invited them to meet to discuss the matter.

The result of this discussion was that all the medical gentlemen present at the meeting were of opinion that it would not be practicable to obtain a Committee of Ladies in Hongkong who would be able to raise such a fund as would together with the nurses' fees provide for her maintenance during her term of engagement and for her travelling expenses out from England and home. The question of what assistance might be rendered by the Government was then considered and the meeting passed a series of resolutions which are embodied in Enclosure "B" to the Report of the Colonial Surgeon and which recommend that the Government should establish a Private Nursing Institution and should also train nurses locally.

The papers were then referred to Miss Eastmond, Matron of the Civil Hospital, for consideration and report. In her report, dated 10th October, she points out that so far as the Colonial Nursing Association is concerned (Secretary of State's despatch 27th June 1896) the success of that scheme depends on the expenses connected with it being guaranteed. But, as already pointed out above, the report of the Colonial Surgeon shows that the medical practitioners of the colony consider that such a guarantee cannot be provided. With regard to the scheme of bringing out nurses under a Government agreement, Miss Eastmond thinks that it would be a great boon to the colony, as ensuring skilled nursing, and would be a help to the Medical Department, in case of an epidemic, provided of course that department had the prior claim to the Sisters' services. She is of opinion, however, that this scheme would involve a considerable outlay and would never be self-supporting.

As to the question of training nurses locally, Miss Eastmond states that "if good material to work on can be obtained, we could, I am sure, train sufficiently for private cases and for working in the Civil Hospital if required under the Sisters, though the experience gained would not be sufficient to enable them to fill the post of a Sister," and is of opinion that "the training of Eurasian girls appears worth a trial," and that "if we could get girls from the schools here or at Shanghai, the Government might give the matter a trial." She also suggests the giving of Elementary lectures on nursing in the Belilios School, the Head-mistress of which is in favour of such lectures, but points out that Dr. Ayres and Dr. Atkinson consider it impossible to arrange for lectures while two sisters are on leave.

As to the training of natives, Miss Eastmond is of opinion that it would not be possible to do more than is at present done in the way of training boys and amahs who join the Hospital Staff.

In forwarding the Report of Miss Eastmond, the Colonial Surgeon in a minute dated 15th October, points out that the present nursing staff is so much occupied that the Matron has to perform the work of an ordinary Sister in addition to discharging her duties as matron, and that the other Sisters have to work overtime, so that they have no time for teaching.

There can be no doubt that private nurses are much wanted in Hongkong. In fact, I know two cases at the present moment in which it has not been possible to obtain a properly qualified nurse, and it has been found necessary to have recourse to a soldier's wife who has not been regularly trained, but who, in the absence of any one better, has been engaged to attend to both cases.

The want of nurses being undoubted, the question is how to supply that want. The private practitioners seem unwilling to run any risk on their own account, and desire the Government to furnish five nurses, who are to be available for private nursing. The engagement of five nurses would involve a considerable outlay, and I do not know whether there is room for them in the Sisters' quarters at the Civil Hospital, as the Colonial Surgeon might be requested to report as to accommodation. But if this Government is to do anything in the way of improving matters in this colony so far as nursing

is concerned, and is to support the scheme of training nurses locally and giving lectures on elementary nursing to girls; it seems clear that it will be necessary to increase the present nursing staff at the Civil Hospital, and I am of opinion that the very least this Government could do to improve the present unsatisfactory state of private nursing in Hongkong would be to increase the nursing staff at the Civil Hospital so as to afford the Matron and Sisters time for teaching and lecturing in addition to performing their regular duties.

Judging from Miss Eastmond's Report there seems every reason to hope that if her scheme of teaching and lecturing be carried out, there will soon be in Hongkong a supply of nurses sufficiently well trained to meet the local requirements of that colony. It seems to me that the aim of the Government should be chiefly directed to this end. I recommend therefore that these papers be referred to the Colonial Surgeon, so that he and Dr. Atkinson may report after consultation with Miss Eastmond (1) what increase in the staff would be necessary to afford the Matron and Sisters time for regular teaching and lecturing; and the estimated cost, (2) what increase in the staff would be necessary to supply private nursing to the community and the probable cost, (3) what length of time it would require to train nurses qualified to undertake private nursing.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

19th October, 1896.

The following is the joint report of Dr. Ayres, Dr. Atkinson, and Miss Eastmond:—

Government Civil Hospital,
Hongkong, 31st March, 1897.

Sir,—In accordance with your instructions, we have the honour to submit the following report in reply to the questions contained in your Memorandum dated 19th October, 1896, viz:—

- What increase in the staff would be necessary to afford the Matron and Sisters time for regular teaching and lecturing and the estimated cost?
- What increase in the staff would be necessary to supply private nursing to the community and the probable cost?
- What length of time it would require to train nurses qualified to undertake private nursing?

The scheme that appears most practicable is as follows:—

The scheme to be confined to—

- Giving periodical lectures on Nursing at the Belilios and other Schools for girls.
- Training persons in the Government Civil Hospital with a view to their qualifying as nurses. This would include lectures by the Nursing and Medical staff.

To give effect to such a scheme, arrangements would have to be made to relieve the Matron of a portion of her present duties and to allow her or one of the other Sisters to give lectures.

This can best be done by appointing an Assistant Matron at a salary of \$50 per month, rising to \$70 a month with uniform, rations, quarters, and attendance.

As regards the training of the persons:—

To effectually secure this, it is absolutely necessary that they should reside on the premises under the immediate supervision of the Matron or Assistant Matron. Suitable premises would therefore have to be erected for this purpose.

It is anticipated that the facilities offered by the hospital for training such persons are sufficient to admit of ten probationers undergoing their course at one and the same time, so that accommodation would be required for the Assistant Matron and ten probationers.

The probationers would have to serve for a term of three years before they obtained their certificate, but this would not necessarily prevent their services being available for private cases before the expiration of such period in the event of their qualifications being considered sufficient for attendance upon any particular cases.

The cost of establishing such a scheme would therefore be—

Capital Expenditure
(a) Cost of Home for Probationers, say \$30,000
(b) Cost of obtaining Assistant Matron from England 450
(c) Cost of furnishing the Home 2,000

Annually Recurrent
(a) Cost of maintenance of Home 1,000
(b) Cost of Food, Uniform, etc., 4,000
(c) Salaries \$2,400 rising to 3,840

Any project for supplying private nursing to the community would probably involve a much larger expenditure, necessitating at once an extension of the Medical Staff Quarters and the obtaining of at least five more Sisters from England.—We have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servants.

PH. B. C. AYRES,
Colonial Surgeon.
J. M. ATKINSON,
Superintendent.
CLARA EASTMOND,
Matron.

The Honourable J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Colonial Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

DIAMOND JUBILEE SUGGESTIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—As suggestions are now being sent in as to how to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee, I submit two proposals, both in connection with the Government Civil Hospital. One is to develop a medical school to train medical men, the second to establish a training school to train women as sick nurses.

I feel sure if the various competing schemes were laid before Her Majesty, she would certainly give her sympathy to these two most important matters.

The want of a Medical School is most serious. The Colonial Medical Service is most seriously undermanned, and a school training young men as assistants to the regular English medical staff would be of lasting importance. Men so trained, whether employed in the colony or on the Chinese mainland, would spread English influence and do much to enlighten the Chinese people as to Western ideas. Any expenditure laid out in such a way would repay itself, and repay Hongkong in the development of a demand for Western articles and the various elements of Western civilization. Hongkong could not make a better investment than in developing such a school, which for all the years to come would benefit the colony and react on the Chinese people.

The need of a Training School for female nurses has been frequently urged here, and it is believed that the sisters at the Civil Hospital have been thinking of the matter for a long time, although no definite step has been taken. Such a home constructed near the Hospital would house suitable women, and they would be messengers of English civilization, and order, and cleanliness to many a native home. They would be non-sectarian, and entirely aloof from any proselytizing work. The Civil Hospital would thus have as it were a right hand and a left hand, both employed in a work of great social and even political importance, the right hand training males to the science of medicine and the left teaching women how to nurse, a science which deals completely with the home and its surroundings.

Hongkong has now a unique opportunity of combining private philanthropy with regulated state aid in a movement to celebrate a great historic event. It is almost impossible to place any limit on the power for good socially and the influence which may spread politically from the opening of two such institutions. Hongkong education is already acting on China, as witness the late diplomatic appointments by China. Hongkong is only England across the seas, and it is England's special mission to do work such as this wherever her flag flies. Ten thousand clock towers would not achieve a work so important as those now suggested. Such movements would, it is quite certain, be in absolute

sympathy with Her Majesty's own personal desires and would appeal jointly to all Hongkong citizens, whether English or Chinese.—Yours,

SCHOOL & HOME.

Hongkong, 30th March, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—It is six o'clock and I am still at my office. Why? Simply because there is nothing particular to attract me outside, and no variety in spending an hour and a half at my house before dinner time. Were the Diamond Jubilee Road or even a portion of it made, I should be behind a pair of ponies, and enjoying that which at the close of a hot day is the almost universal panacea for all the evils in the tropics. In all parts of the world the luxury of rapid movement through the air in the hot season is sought as a relief. We used to enjoy it in Hongkong much more than now, but the great increase of Chinese passengers and pedestrians has spoiled the pleasure of horse and carriage exercise in the portions of the colony immediately East and West. We want to get much beyond, and to have a house of call and refreshment about half-way, returning after some hours' absence inspired instead of wearied with the outing. For this purpose a total road length of fifteen miles would be as good or better than thirty-five, and the smaller section is part and parcel of the larger plan. This more moderate scheme will not cost one fifth part of the larger undertaking, and is quite within the means of the colony.

Pray, Mr. Editor, do what you can to advocate this compromise. It is for the advantage, most especially of those who, for one reason or another, are not able to live on the top of the hill. Those who do so even would not be in different to the lower road, as they also get very weary, as do indeed all the inhabitants of this little island, of the unchanging sameness of every day's existence. We all want sometimes to get out, and it is so difficult to know how and where to go for an outing.—Yours faithfully,

SCRIBE.

Hongkong, 30th March, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—I have read with considerable interest the various suggestions thrown out by your correspondents for a fitting memorial to perpetuate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The proposal to have a road round the island seems to me the one *par excellence*. Such a road would be a veritable boon to thousands. The project for a new clock tower is likewise excellent, the present one being entirely inadequate for the requirements of the colony.

By the way, who is "Pater"? I fail to see any particular utility in his suggestion for a school at the Peak and I think his tirade against Chinamen and their characters is as heartless and unjust as it is absurd and uncalled for.—Yours faithfully,

JUNIUS.

Hongkong, 30th March, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—At last the opportunity has arrived of supplying a long felt want in the colony. Why talk of roads, of statues, of perambulating clock towers, when you can start a fund for the relief of the overworked and under-fed military officers stationed here. I propose the fund be termed "The Diamond Jubilee Fund for the relief of Impecunious Subalterns in Hongkong." I estimate that even a couple of hundred thousand dollars would be sufficient to start on. I therefore promise to subscribe \$1 (one dollar) on condition that 199,999 other persons agree to do the same.—Yours faithfully,

J. BIGCLOBBLE.

Hongkong, 30th March, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—(Woman) in her letter of yesterday has, in my humble opinion, undoubtedly struck the right cord. There could be no more fitting memorial of our beloved Queen's reign than the establishment of the Hospital and Institute advocated by her.

I see from the Home papers that Her Majesty will not say one way or the other how she

desires the subscriptions that may be collected to be expended, but I am quite sure that if her wishes were known they would all be in favour of "Woman's" noble suggestion. I trust the Jubilee Committee will remember this when they come to decide what form the permanent Memorial shall take.

Much has been said in favour of the Diamond Jubilee Road, but there is a certain selfish tone about this suggestion that does not recommend itself to me at all. Mind you, sir, I am saying nothing against the idea. I think it a most excellent one, but it is so essentially a Government work and one that should be undertaken at the instance of the Government only. By all means let the Committee urge upon the Government, and urge strongly, the desirability of commencing the road, and commencing it this year. It would then serve as a memorial of the record reign, but do not let us spend any subscriptions on it. The Government should make it.

Of all the many ideas that have been brought forward in the papers lately "Woman's" most womanly and unselfish plea for a Hospital for Woman and a Training Institute for Nurses in connection therewith commends itself to me most strongly, and I trust that many of your readers will agree with me.—I enclose my card and remain, yours faithfully,
A MAN.

Hongkong, 31st March, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Sir,—Of the various suggestions for commemorating the Diamond Jubilee, that suggested by "A Woman" in the letter which appeared in your columns of to-day appears to me to be far the most appropriate.

I am not saying anything against Mr. Leigh's scheme for a clock tower, which is a good one and apparently quite feasible. The cost of such an undertaking would also probably come well within the sum likely to be subscribed in the colony towards the establishment of a lasting memorial.

The proposed road round the island, however, is a somewhat visionary scheme, easy to suggest but hard to carry out, if attempted to be carried out in any degree in accordance with the meaning of the word "round the island." What it would cost and when it would be completed no one would, I suggest, dare to hazard a guess. Besides, is not such a road more a matter for the attention of the P.W.D. or the War Department?

Like Mr. Leigh's scheme, the proposed Women's Hospital and Training Institute should not take very long to complete and the Government need not be asked to undertake the work. Subscribers to such a memorial should before long see the result of their subscriptions in solid masonry. Surely if the necessity for such a hospital and institute, such a road, and such a clock tower as those suggested is equal, the first place should unhesitatingly be given to the hospital and institute. The Government would of course provide a suitable site free of cost, which would leave the whole of the money subscribed for expenditure on the buildings and for the future maintenance of the institution itself. As to any balance required to be made up year by year for its upkeep, surely the colony could be trusted to see that the necessary funds were forthcoming by private subscription; for the hospital and institute would be self-supporting to a certain extent.

Last, but not least, in favour of a hospital and institute over the other suggested schemes is that if all were submitted for the consideration of Her Most Gracious Majesty, would she not be more than likely to decide in favour of the hospital and institute?—Yours faithfully,
GODFREY C. C. MASTER.

Hongkong, 31st March, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—It would appear that two projects have attracted more than a little attention, viz., that of a training hospital for women and a road round the Island. In the former case I understand the idea is to utilize Eurasians for nurses. If this is confined to the attendance upon the Portuguese, Eurasian, Asiatic, or Chinese sick, well and good; but it would be a sad pity that any change should be made in

the present admirable arrangement of the sisterhood at the Civil Hospital. This has worked to the satisfaction and comfort of every one who has been an inmate there. The hospital was never so popular as now, and the kindness, care, and attention which the patients receive makes an indelible impression upon the minds of most. We have more than enough of Asiatics in business and even in domestic life without being nursed by them when sick. It is at such times that one most misses the sweet companionship of mother and sister, and the quiet pleasant offices of the maid servants in our English homes; and then we feel the real trial of being waited on by a Chinese "boy." This is the reason why so many bachelors are found at the Civil Hospital when seriously unwell. Were the building in a quieter neighbourhood there would be still more. If the intention is that the Eurasian nurses shall only be employed for nursing sick Chinese, it may be said that much is already done for them; that the new departure at the Tung Wa Hospital is on its trial; and that already some are in course of training to wait upon Chinese sick, when they will have them.

If the proposal is to train British young women for nursing here, it would appear far better that they should go through their apprenticeship in the hospitals at home. The time during which a young English woman can stand the work of hospital nursing in Hongkong, without a twelve months' holiday, is not perhaps more, upon an average, than three years. It would be a thousand pities that the first of these periods should be spent in this colony in learning that which the nursing sisters should arrive here to practice. Would not a better plan be to increase the staff of the nursing sisters at the hospital from nine to twelve, so that two or three could be detailed to attend to private cases without inconvenience? This would remove the difficulty which is now complained of, and would accomplish the required provision in the least expensive way. To make a new and separate establishment will involve a great deal, whereas we have now all that is needed, viz., a pleasant circle into which these young ladies are introduced on their arrival, a delightful house in which they live together, and active occupation to which they are adapted. The arrangement at present is unique, and only requires a slight extension.

So much comfort there is for us when we are sick, but, better still, if we can avoid being sick, and there is nothing which tends to the perfection and preservation of health so much as open, free, pure, fresh air and activity therein. These young ladies get a little, a very little, horse exercise. They ought to have a great deal more. Perhaps once in six months they get into a carriage; some of them ought to ride or drive every day. Both these most lovable pastimes are at present simply impossible in Hongkong. Where is the pleasure of a ten miles' ride or drive, when the half of it is through the China town, either East or West? From this there is no escape, and forming much more than half of the measure of our accustomed outings, they become wearisome instead of refreshing. We want the 22 mile road which Messrs. Denison and Ram have sketched out. If this can be made, as they express the hope that it can, for \$75,000 it is cheap indeed, and will do more to empty the hospitals than all the drugs in the half dozen dispensaries in Hongkong.—Yours faithfully,

JEHU.

Hongkong, 2nd April, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—I notice that one of the schemes, influentially put forward, is to build a women's and children's hospital adjoining the present Civil Hospital. No doubt the available area offers an inducement. This, however, is not unused at present, and affords a most valuable refreshment to the inmates, who constantly overlook the garden, and when convalescent can enjoy its use.—The same may be said of the view northward from the stone building occupied by the Sisters. It is very important also that this recreation ground should be preserved for those who are so constantly and closely occupied within the buildings. But the chief consideration is that

the site itself of the Civil Hospital is undesirable. It is within the contour appropriated to Chinese dwellings and is almost surrounded on three sides by these. That their height and density is constantly increasing, and that eventually it will, no doubt, be necessary to remove the hospital to a higher, purer, level, where greater quiet may be insured. Hence it would be unwise to confirm the present site, which has already been condemned by the Colonial Surgeon. It would also appear that in Hongkong we have already quite sufficient hospital accommodation on the lower levels, viz., the Military, the ship *Meane*, the Women's, the Royal Naval, the Civil, the Alice Memorial, the Netherlands, the Belcher's Bay, the Tung Wa, and, on the higher levels, the New Military and the Peak. Hongkong would indeed seem to be as well nursed as any place in the world.

It would therefore be desirable to find some means of promoting the public health and happiness other than that of healing the sick. Doctors are indispensable, but it is a calamity to fall into their hands, and one would rather have them at the dinner table than at the bedside. What is it which makes medical men to be here so constantly required? It is the want of change and exercise for seven weary hot months. During the whole of this time active exercise, out of the wind, is almost insupportable. In Hongkong one may live on the windward side of a wall and die on the leeward side. Houses should be detached. Europeans cannot live in buildings with a considerable amount of dead wall in them. Every room should have about eight doors or windows in it. The sideboard is well exchanged for fresh air. More houses may yet be built upon the North side of the hill face, and they will be let because they are so convenient of access to business and the harbour, but, nevertheless, there should be means of ready communication with the South and West sides of the Island, where the fresh breezes live and blow. We should have the same opportunities which are enjoyed in India, the Straits, and throughout the tropics, of enjoying carriage and horse exercise in the cool evenings. What would the inhabitants of any of these places think of an impenetrable wall being raised between them and the evening breeze? The wall behind which the greater portion of our population live is 1,800 feet high, exactly between us and the wind; so that the flags in the harbour may sometimes be seen to fly from opposite quarters simultaneously. Let us have a road, then, right round the island, 22 miles long, and halfway or rest houses here and there, and the conditions of life in this confined spot will be changed. I understand that all this length can be accomplished for \$75,000. If the Jubilee contributors will give \$37,500, the Government would probably be justified in adding as much more. The whole of this outlay would come back in sales of ground and rates on buildings, and a great deal more, and nothing would contribute so largely to the general benefit and advancement of the colony. It is in the exercise of their own activities that people find the greatest amount of pleasure. What a constant demand upon these will be involved in the existence of this road! In the past we have been much in the habit of boasting of what has been accomplished in Hongkong during only 50 years. Is it not a scandal that in a little island 9 miles by 4 hardly one in a thousand of its inhabitants has ever stood upon the other side?—Yours faithfully,

MARCHEUR.

Hongkong, 4th April, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—It will, I think, be the general opinion that the Diamond Jubilee Committee have shown a wise discretion in the selection from the proposals placed before them of those, six in number which they have referred to a sub-committee for inquiry and report. It will also be generally felt that the sub-committee are fully competent to make an independent and careful examination of the proposals thus referred for their consideration. Further, no one will doubt that, as the result of these deliberations, they will recommend the adoption of that proposal which, on a review of all the circumstances of the case,

honestly appears to them to be best adapted for the purpose which we all have in view, namely, the fitting and worthy celebration, by means of some suitable permanent memorial, of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign.

But while we all have confidence in the impartiality of the sub-committee, and in their ability to arrive at a satisfactory decision, it may not be out of place to draw attention to the considerations which should, as I venture to think, be present to their minds in coming to that decision. These considerations may be shortly stated as follows:—

First, the memorial should, if possible, be such as would be well-pleasing to the Queen. We all know that it is not possible to take Her Majesty's pleasure upon the matter, but at the same time we are not without ample means of forming an opinion as to what mode of celebration would be most agreeable to her wishes. And it should be steadily borne in mind that there is a strong personal element in this celebration. For we are not only desirous of celebrating a reign which is unparalleled for length and splendour in "our rough island story," but we are also eager to do honour to the august lady who has so admirably filled the throne during that long reign, and whose conduct and high qualities of mind and of heart have won for her the veneration and affection not only of her own subjects but also of the whole civilized world. I venture, then, to lay it down as a necessary condition of a really appropriate memorial that it should be in consonance with the character and sympathies of the Queen, or at any rate that it should not be entirely dissociated from them.

In the next place, the memorial should be general in its character, that is to say, it should as far as possible appeal to the sentiments and tend to promote the happiness of all classes of the community. It may be admitted that this is a somewhat difficult ideal to strive after, in a community composed of such heterogeneous elements as is that of Hongkong, but still I cannot help thinking that we should endeavour, as far as may be practicable, to attain to it.

Lastly, the memorial should be of such a kind as to command a large amount of sympathy and support, both in a moral and material sense, from the people of the Colony. It is clear that the memorial must in the main be erected by means of funds derived from public subscriptions; and that memorial will have the best chance of being carried to a completion which is most likely to appeal to the generous feelings of those members of the community, whatever their race or class may be, who are both able and willing to contribute subscriptions.

Assuming that these considerations are germane to the matter, let us apply them to the several proposals now awaiting examination by the sub-committee.

First, with regard to the procuring of an oil painting of Her Majesty, I suppose everybody will agree that this is a desirable thing in itself. But its cost will not be considerable, and as you, Sir, point out in your issue of this morning, it may be regarded as merely "an addition to the principal memorial."

The same remark applies, although I think in a less degree, to the suggested completion of the Queen's statue. I should myself have been inclined to think that this work might very well wait until the Praya reclamation has been carried out and the principal business houses have been transferred to the new sea front. It will then, no doubt, be felt that the statue should be worthily completed, and measures will be taken accordingly. At present it stands as the solitary of an empty wilderness.

The establishment of a College of Medicine seems to be a very desirable object, and one which might fittingly be associated with the present Jubilee celebration. But, on the whole, I think its claims are not so pressing as those of the proposal to which I shall presently refer, and I would therefore suggest that although in the interests of the general community and especially of the Chinese portion of it, the project should not be lost sight of, it may be postponed for the present. Perhaps, however, it may not pass the wit of the sub-committee to devise some scheme by which this proposal may be carried out in conjunction with the two

others to which I will presently refer.

The next suggestion is that a road round the island, or part of the island, should be constructed as the most suitable mode of commemorating the Jubilee. This proposal has received a good deal of support, and I desire to speak of it with all respect. But, if we apply the tests of suitability which I have ventured to lay down, can it be said to satisfy them? Who would venture to affirm that it has any relation whatever to the character or tastes of the Queen?—that it is, in a personal sense, in any way an appropriate memorial? Then, as to the extent to which it will benefit the general population, I presume it will mostly be used by people who ride in carriages or on horseback or on bicycles. These, after all, constitute but a small section of the well-to-do classes of the population. For the great bulk of the inhabitants of the Colony the proposed road might just as well be situated in mid-China. But the last suggested test is, I think, the most damaging to this scheme. For when the subscription list comes round, who is going to subscribe freely for the construction of the road? Who will be moved by feelings of sentiment or generosity to pay for an indeterminate number of feet or yards of macadamised or concreted roadway? Is it not the simple truth that, as you, Sir, said some time ago, if such a road is wanted, it is essentially a public work which should be taken in hand by the Public Works Department, with funds provided by the Government of the Colony? You may depend upon it that if this scheme is adopted, the feeling to which I have now referred will be very evident in its operation when the subscription lists go round. Does anybody think, for instance, that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank would or ought to subscribe one penny for a road round the island? A project of benevolence is, or at any rate might well be, another matter.

There remain only the proposals for (1) the erection of a Women and Children's Hospital in connection with the Civil Hospital, and (2) the establishment of a Hospital for Women with a Training Institute for Nurses in connexion therewith.

It appears to me that either of these proposals would, if adopted and carried out, constitute a fitting memorial of the Jubilee. They will, no doubt, be considered in combination. But, in my humble opinion, the second is the more valuable of the two, because the Nurses' Institute is more wanted than even the Women's Hospital. And this proposal best satisfies the conditions to which I have adverted above. In the first place, no one can doubt that the establishment of such a Hospital and Institute would in an especial degree be pleasing to the Queen and worthily commemorate her personal career. Besides the instances in support of this position which were cited by "A Woman" in her letter, I see in *The Times* that the memorial in Ireland is to take the form of an Irish Nurses' Queen's Commemoration Fund. In the next place, it would be a work of beneficence which would directly tend to promote the health and comfort of all classes and races of the community. It is difficult to exaggerate the blessing of skilled nursing in sickness, and the want of it which exists in this Colony. And, lastly, the scheme is fairly sure of adequate public approval and support. It is an open secret that it has been put forward by one of the leading ladies of the Colony, who is always ready to lend her help to deeds of benevolence, and it is also well known that it has received the cordial adhesion of a large number of influential ladies. These ladies will, no doubt, take a pleasure in furthering the inception and successful working of the scheme by any means within their resources and power, and will win over their friends to do the same.

It will, I hope, not be thought out of time for me to have made these observations. The view which I take on this point is that it is proper, and indeed expedient, for the advocates of any of the schemes which are now before the sub-committee to bring, under the notice of these gentlemen any arguments in favour of them which they may think worthy of consideration. For my part, I make bold to predict that, if the proposed Hospital for Women and the Training Institute in connexion with it are

approved and established, many sick and suffering women and children, eye and men, too, will hereafter, whether consciously or unconsciously, call down blessings on the woman who conceived the noble idea and on the men who approved it and gave it shape and form.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

GEVIS.

Hongkong, 6th April, 1897.

THE GYMKHANA HANDICAP

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR.—In the result of the handicap for 1 mile at the coming Gymkhana which your contemporary the *China Mail* publishes last night appears a footnote saying "the rest of document that reaches us is illegible." Can it be that the whole document was so badly written that a mistake has also been made in the weights published? This seems to me to be the kindest explanation of the peculiar handicapping. The points usually taken into consideration in handicapping are "form" and "performances." Let us for a moment analyze the Handicap Tocsin has never won a race in Hongkong, he is known to be a cur, and has never gone near the form he showed two years ago when he was purchased; he is a 13.2 lb. pony and he is given 12st. 2lbs. Polo ran a bad third in the Derby this year; he was beaten in the Curry States and Phaeton stakes and could only struggle into second place on the Off Day in races for beaten ponies. Since then he has won two races at an up-country meeting in especially bad time and was beaten completely off by a griffin of 1896 in the Champions there. He is a 13 hand pony and has to carry 11st 9lbs. Now we come to Gleniffer. This pony won the Compradore's Cup in a common canter, doing his mile in 2.11. He next appeared in the German Cup, 1 1/4 mile, winning as he pleased in 2.45, that is, 2 1/4 secs. faster than Straightforward last year who ran third in the Champions of that year. He puts up a 10 lb. penalty and wins the Robinson Challenge Cup 1 1/4 mile easily. He is a 13.1 hand pony and has to carry 11st 6lbs., that is, he receives 6lbs. from Polo and 7 from Tocsin at W.I. If the deciphering of this handicap is correct we may well ask on what principle do the Handicappers work?

Sidmouth. This pony has only run at a Coast Port Meeting, where he won a Consolation Race 1 mile in 2.20; he is a 13 hand pony and has to carry 11st 6lbs., that is, he gives Gleniffer 3lbs. Why? But let us take the case of Sport. Here we have a pony that showed himself to be fast for 1 mile and able to stay. He ran second to Gleniffer in the Compradores, which was won in the respectable time of 2.11; he was again second in the Gymkhana Stakes and in the Nil Desperandum, carrying each time 11st 4lbs.; he is a 13.2 hand pony and we find him put in at 10st 10lbs. If the writing is so bad in the document referred to that this is 11st 10lbs. we see some validity in the handicapping; but otherwise again ask ourselves by what principle is the handicapping done? Are all our handicaps this summer to be run on the same principle? I would offer as a fair method of handicapping the following examples:—Gleniffer, 13.1 hand pony, W.I. 11.1, carries 14 lbs. extra for three wins, handicap 12.1. Polo, 13 hand pony, W.I. 10.12, carries 10 lbs. for two wins, handicap 11.8. Sidmouth, 13 hand pony, W.I. 10.12, carries 7 lbs.—(I think 5 lbs. would be really enough for winning a Consolation Race)—handicap 11.5 or 11.3. Sport, 13.2 hand pony, W.I. 11.4, ran second three times and carries a penalty of 3lbs. for form, handicap 11.7. Magpie, late Arthurlie, 13 hand pony, W.I. 10.12, ran twice and never showed in front at all, handicap 10.12.

My Handicap		Handicappers' Handicap	
Tocsin	11.4	Tocsin	12.2
Polo	11.8	Polo	11.9
Gleniffer	12.1	Gleniffer	11.6
Sidmouth	11.3	Sidmouth	11.6
Arthurlie	10.12	Arthurlie	11.0
Sport	11.7	Sport	10.10
So		So	

We see now which ponies have it all their own way. Even supposing that the handicappers hold that a subscriptions griffin of this year is to be given the 7lbs. allowance offered at the meeting on purpose to induce owners to run

to the ponies, this would only bring Gleniffer to 11lb. and Sport to 10lb. But they have gone further than this, which in all conscience would have been sufficient, and have put 12lb. on Polo, 11lb. on Sidmouth, 11lb. on Arundel, and taken off from Gleniffer 1lb. and Sport 3lbs. that is, they have handicapped Sport at all on form, while they have overdone the others. I really cannot follow the method employed at all. Do they put the names into one bag and the weights into another and draw them out? It would seem so, unless your contemporary has really been unable to read the document correctly. I enclose my card and beg to subscribe myself,

RECTE QUOD HONESTE

Hongkong, 4th April, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Dear Sir,—I read the effusion that appeared in your paper of yesterday's date over the *nom-de-plume* of "Recte quod honeste" and with many others was much concerned at the petulant and acrimonious tone in which the handicappers for the forthcoming Gymkhana meeting were attacked. It is a great pity that before rushing into print and publishing his lamentable ignorance of the subject he took up, your correspondent did not talk the matter over with some one who has an idea of the relative capabilities of the different ponies entered. My attention having been drawn to the fact that in the absence of a reply our off season's sport might be held up to the ridicule of the public, in rejoinder I crave space to point out that in the opinion of the majority of the owners the handicap is an exceptionally good one. In my humble opinion the ponies could not be better brought together, but I expect to see "Tocsin" romp in with his 12st. 2lbs. a winner next Saturday. If any slip was made it has been in not giving him a little more weight, but considering his recent running you could not well put more on him.

Honest and fair criticism in all public matters is good and ought to be encouraged; therefore I cannot but applaud your correspondent's pluck in attacking the executive. On the present occasion, though, he has been terribly misled, or some wag has been pulling his leg. He criticises the "method" of our handicappers. Since reading his letter I have been puzzling what few brains I am possessed of to arrive at a conclusion why in his gratuitous handicap he makes "Sport" give "Tocsin" 3 lbs. Further comment is needless, therefore I remain, Your obedient servant,

T. F. HOUGH.

Hongkong, 6th April, 1897.

THE SUNDAY BAND PERFORMANCES.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."]

Dear Mr. Editor,—Am I awake and living here in Hongkong in 1897, or am I asleep and dreaming that I am living in the time of the Puritans, when laughter was a crime, the most innocent amusements regarded as ungodly, and the highest form of recreation singing psalms. You might send the office boy with a stout pin to run into the fleshy part of my arm in order to let me know if I really am awake and not under the influence of a nightmare.

I noticed a paragraph in the evening papers stating the band of the West Yorks would not play again on Sunday morning. Is it possible there are such miserable, narrow minded, wretched bigoted living who think that listening to the magnificent music provided by Bandmaster Bentley is ungodly or a desecration of the Sabbath? Possibly they think that listening to and manfully tiring scandal, imbibing cocktails, and various other even more objectionable things are preferable. I should like to dare a vote of what the people of Hongkong think on the matter. Does any one imagine stopping the band will increase any congregation of the unit for bringing one lost sheep to the fold? I doubt it very greatly. I am, dear sir, yours truly,

ONE OF THE LOST SHEEP.

Hongkong, 3rd April, 1897.

The International Cotton Mill at Shanghai was formally opened on the 31st March.

THE FOREIGN TRADE OF CHINA, 1896.

The following is the report of the Statistical Secretary of the Customs on the foreign trade of China in 1896.

GENERAL.

The value of the foreign trade of China for the year under review rose from nearly HK Tls. 315,000,000 in 1895 to HK Tls. 333,800,000, which is the largest total recorded in the Customs returns. In both imports and export trade has been active, and the remarkable gain under imports, while affording evidence of the recovery from the disorganisation caused by the war with Japan, contributed to the exchequer a million and a half taels over the import duties collected in the year preceding. The inland ports of Soochow in Kiangsu, Hanchow in Chekiang, and the Yangtze mart of Shasi in Hupeh were opened to foreign trade under the Treaty of Shimoda and Custom houses established at each port for the collection of duties from the 1st October, but trade was insignificant, and the revenue table shows that the first quarter's receipts from the new ports yielded the inconsiderable sum of HK Tls. 6,180.

REVENUE.

In comparing the collection of 1896, which amounts to HK Tls. 22,579,000, with the receipts of former years, it must be borne in mind that previous statistics include the two Formosan collectorates ceded to Japan, whose revenue aggregated over a million taels a year; consequently, the increase of HK Tls. 1,193,000 over the figures of 1895, despite the loss of such important sources of income, must be regarded as a gratifying event, for although the revenue of 1896 was exceeded in the memorable year 1891 by HK Tls. 938,000, the figures for that year included HK Tls. 1,100,000 contributed by the island since lost to China. The advance in favour of the period under notice is attributable to imports, which yielded, exclusive of opium, HK Tls. 1,699,000 more than in the preceding year. Duty and likin derived from Indian drug show a further decline of HK Tls. 69,000 and HK Tls. 184,000 respectively, while export duties exhibit a diminution of over HK Tls. 492,000, which is accounted for by the cession of Formosa, not to mention the marked decreased exports of such staples as tea, silk, cotton, and native opium, the last named commodity paying less duty by HK Tls. 206,000 than in 1895, owing to the reduced shipments from the great mart Chungking, though this decline must not be accepted as indicating diminished production, as native drug travels overland in large quantities and does not come under the cognizance of the Maritime Customs. Coast trade duties and tonnage and transit dues account for HK Tls. 420,000 more than in 1895. The evacuation of Newchwang by the Japanese led to the resumption in the spring of that port's important coastwise traffic and contributed largely to the coast trade duty receipts, the restoration of peace releasing a lot of Chinese and Japanese shipping, whose re-employment materially swelled the tonnage of 1896, which was further augmented by the arrival of more ocean steamers and sailing ships, hence the year's exceptional receipts from tonnage dues. Transit dues, inwards and outwards, surpass previous returns, and show an improvement over the 1895 total of HK Tls. 96,140, foreign imports certificated inland yielding HK Tls. 75,896 and outward produce HK Tls. 20,244 to this advance. To the gross total revenue of say, 22½ million taels, the proportion paid by vessels of the different nations was in round figures, as follows: British, 60 per cent.; German, 8 per cent.; French, 2 per cent.; Norwegian and Swedish by the many small coasting craft, 3 per cent.; Russian, 1.50 per cent.; Japanese, 2 per cent.; Chinese, 21.50 per cent., and 2 per cent. by flag of all other countries.

FOREIGN TRADE.

Judging from the statistical totals the impression formed will be that exceptional prosperity has prevailed. In no year have imports attained such a high value, and although exports were greater in 1895, the present diminution is accounted for by the omission of the Formosa statistics, whereas the last returns

include six months more than the preceding year. This great loss, however, has been more than made up by the increase in the value of both imports and exports, which have increased so much. The recovery from the disastrous and stagnating effect of the war was rapid and large, and for a time profitable import business in cottons, but the market soon became glutted and it will take a long time to get rid of present stocks; therefore, during 1897, a great curtailment in imports may be expected. Low and steadier sterling exchange (fluctuating from 3s. 1d. to 2s. 10d. per Shanghai tael) favoured exports, which, however, were considerably enhanced in price, owing to the scarcity of copper cash prevailing throughout the year, materially nullifying the advantages of cheap silver. This paucity of cash appears to be entirely due to insufficient minting within the past two or three decades; consequently, people took advantage of the dearth to secretly coin and circulate inferior cash, the large or standard coins being hoarded or melted to make utensils, and the recent prohibition of the coining and circulating of illegal cash accentuated the scarcity, to the injury of trade.

IMPORTS.

Compared with the figures of 1895 the net value of imports for the year show an increase of over 30 million taels, to which sum manufactured cottons contributed HK Tls. 15,000,000, Indian and Japanese yarn HK Tls. 11,000,000, the balance being made up by woollens, metals, kerosene oil, and the long list of commodities classed under the heading of "sundries." Inspection of the list of imports shows a further decline in the importation of opium, of 2,595 piculs, which is attributed not only to the disappearance in the returns of the requirements in Formosa, but to decreased demand throughout China, as exemplified in the table giving the particulars of net consumption at each port. Business in opium is reported to have been most unsatisfactory, especially at the close of the year, owing to the Indian famine causing stringency of the money market, coupled with the sudden fall in the rupee rate of exchange, which dropped from 264½ to 223 per 100 Shanghai taels. In Malwa opium there was a reduction of 3,600 piculs, which competent authorities ascribed to native drugs taking the place of Indian products, the demand for the latter, it may be noted, having receded by 11,800 piculs within the decade, the net importation in 1897, being 34,800 piculs, as compared with 23,000 piculs in 1896, Bengal opium declining during the same period by only 3,700 piculs. In 1896 over 2,000 piculs more of Patna were consumed than in the previous year, yet the trade has been equally disappointing to both importers and native dealers, as quotations, which at the early part of the year touched Taels 600, gradually dwindled to under Taels 500 a chest. The fall in exchange during the last quarter of the year, contrary to anticipation, did not help prices to recover, but had the reverse effect, for, owing to the drop in the Indian rate of about 300 rupees a chest, caused by the tightness of money, all speculation was effectually checked. Regarded from a statistical and fiscal aspect, the trade in textiles was exceptionally good, but to the dealers' business was not remunerative, and during the last half-year large indents arrived on an irresponsible and overburdened market, which accounts for the exceptionally large stocks of cotton piece goods, the total accumulation at this port, according to the returns of the Chamber of Commerce, amounting at the end of the year to over 2,000,000 pieces, against 2,800,000 pieces in 1895, or a surplus of say, 12,000,000 pieces. In such staple cottons as grey and white shirtings, though the year's figures are high, they have often been exceeded when sterling exchange was more favourable for importers, but in American drills, English and American sheetings, chintzes, cotton lastings, handkerchiefs, and towels the importations are remarkable and have never before been equalled. Unfortunately, for importers, the strong demand at the beginning of the year was not maintained and practically ceased, owing to the stringency of the money market, when interest stood at nearly 90 per cent. The ports were decidedly overstocked, consequent upon the large profit in the early part of the year and unrealised gains

tion of further development after the war. The unusually heavy consignments of American drills, sheetings, and cotton flannels is explained by the very low prices at which the American mills were obliged to sell during the summer months in consequence of the badness of domestic trade. With regard to the large importation of English sheetings, it seems that stocks at the end of 1895 were light, while too much was expected from the reopening of the Newchwang market after the Japanese evacuated the port at the close of the war. The business in fancy cottons continues to expand, but is likewise overdone, and in towels and handkerchiefs there appears to have been a great local development, inasmuch as of the 1,125,000 dozens of handkerchiefs shown in the returns over a million dozens are credited to Shanghai. India yarn, which in 1889 aggregated but 628,000 piculs, reached the enormous quantity of 1,461,000 piculs, being 400,000 piculs more than in 1895, while Japanese spinings rose during the twelvemonth from 10,000 piculs to over 100,000 piculs—facts which certainly augur well for the success of the mills in China (to which reference was made in last report) now turning Chinese cotton into yarn. The trade woollens remains singularly inexpansive, though during the year there has been an improved demand for most varieties, but particularly for Italian cloth, which advanced from 62,000 pieces imported in 1895 to 161,000 pieces during 1896, these goods contributing considerably to swell the increased value in woollens of over Hk. Tls. 1,640,000 as compared with the returns of the preceding year. There was a better inquiry for nearly all kinds of metals, especially railroad iron, mild steel, and old iron, the importation of which doubles the figures of 1895. The items in sundries of Western origin which attract attention are candles, cigars and cigarettes, clocks and watches, dyes, flour (of which a third goes to Canton), glass, morphia, needles, kerosine oil, and soap; while in articles of Asiatic origin in which there has been a marked increase the most noteworthy are coal, raw cotton, ginseng, matches (Japanese), sandalwood, and sugar.

EXPORT.

The shipments from China in 1896, as compared with those in 1895, show a decline in value of 12 million taels, and the estimated duty paid thereon a reduction of Hk. Tls. 570,000, the deficit being accounted for by the loss of the trade of the ceded island of Formosa and marked decrease of export of staples, such as tea, silk, and cotton. Enhanced prices and local demand checked shipments of raw cotton to Japan, which fell from 896,000 piculs in 1895 to 418,000 piculs during the year under notice. Of yellow and white silk the export receded by 22,625 piculs, representing a value of over Hk. Tls. 6,200,000; cocoons dropped from 24,000 to 17,845 piculs, or 6,215 piculs, equal in value to Hk. Tls. 224,000; followed by silk piece goods, which exhibited a diminution of 2,241 piculs, representing a value of Hk. Tls. 1,777,000. The striking decrease of 211,500 piculs in the export of black tea is accounted for by the disappearance in the returns of the Formosan shipments, added to the diminished production throughout China both in black and green tea, the latter also having declined by 27,200 piculs. In brook and tablet tea, mostly for the Asiatic Russian market, there was an expansion of 85,500 piculs and 420 piculs respectively, and trade in this division is said to have been exceedingly remunerative, whereas in the case of black tea competition with British grown teas in the English markets renders profits very meagre, and in the green tea trade with the United States but small margins on the right side were possible. That the resuscitation of the China tea trade is not regarded as hopeless is evidenced by the formation of a "Fochow Tea Improvement Company" for the preparation of tea after the Indian and Ceylon methods, to which reference is made in the report on the tea from Fochow. Nor is it improbable that in time this new industry will commend itself to the tea growers, just as steam silk filatures, since the withdrawal of the restriction on the importation and use of machinery, are now being so rapidly and widely established at all the silk-exporting ports or in or near the producing districts that already, in some cases

they fail to prove financial successes. The market for China teas in the United Kingdom may never be recovered, but it is possible that an Asiatic demand may slowly develop for the finer teas of this country, and that India, the destroyer of China's black tea trade, may finally aid in its revival, if the shipments—which were greatly curtailed during the year owing to the plague and famine—continue to increase as they have within the last decade, as exhibited by the subjoined statistics of export of tea—principally green—to India during 1887-96.

	1887.	1892.	1893.
Piculs	15,800	33,700	43,200
Pounds	2,106,600	4,493,300	5,760,000
	1894.	1895.	1896.
Piculs	35,400	32,500	43,700
Pounds	4,720,000	4,333,300	6,226,300
The demand from other countries during the same period is shown hereunder:			
Russian Manchuria	Piculs. 11,029	2,381	11,223
Russia and Siberia	Piculs. 173,559	89,707	117,202
Russia: Odessa	Piculs. 93,467	117,254	164,023
Continent of Europe, Russia excepted	Piculs. 8,927	13,658	20,338
United States	Piculs. 176,142	209,603	202,797
British America	Piculs. 9,488	5,416	11,089
Australia and New Zealand	Piculs. 163,905	122,591	91,591
Great Britain	Piculs. 729,022	313,978	322,235
Black Tea	1887. 729,022	1892. 313,978	1893. 322,235
Green Tea	1887. 15,800	1892. 33,700	1893. 43,200
	1894. 35,400	1895. 32,500	1896. 43,700
	4,720,000	4,333,300	6,226,300
	11,029	2,381	11,223
	173,559	89,707	117,202
	93,467	117,254	164,023
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	176,142	209,603	202,797
	9,488	5,416	11,089
	163,905	122,591	91,591
	729,022	313,978	322,235
	15,800	33,700	43,200
	35,400	32,500	43,700
	4,720,000	4,333,300	6,226,300
	11,029	2,381	11,223
	173,559	89,707	117,202
	93,467	117,254	164,023
	8,927	13,658	20,338
	176,142	209,603	202,797
	9,488	5,416	11,089
	163,905	122,591	91,591
	729,022	313,978	322,235
	15,800	33,700	43,200
	35,400	32,500	43,700
	4,720,000	4,333,300	6,226,300
	11,029	2,381	11,223
	173,559	89,707	117,202
	93,467	117,254	164,023
	8,927	13,658	20,338
	176,142	209,603	202,797
	9,488	5,416	11,089
	163,905	122,591	91,591
	729,022	313,978	322,235
	15,800	33,700	43,200
	35,400	32,500	43,700
	4,720,000	4,333,300	6,226,300
	11,029	2,381	11,223
	173,559	89,707	117,202

the export of opium during the year being Hk. \$15,932,000.

VALUES

The estimated value of the foreign import and export trade, exclusive of bullion, is calculated in the same way as in the report for 1896.

	Hk. Tls.
Net imports, market value	202,589,994
Deduct import duty	6,199,673
Deduct opium duty	5,389,669
	11,589,342
Imports, less duty, &c.	191,000,652
Deduct 7 per cent. for charge, &c.	13,370,046
Imports, value at moment of landing...	177,630,606

	Hk. Tls.
Exports to foreign countries, market value	131,081,421
Add duty, estimated at	5,361,156
Add 8 per cent. on market value for charges, &c.	10,486,514

Exports, value at moment of shipment. 146,929,091

H. KOPSCH,

Statistical Secretary.

Shanghai, 20th March, 1897.

STRAITS INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

The twentieth ordinary general meeting of the Straits Insurance Company was held at the offices of the Company, Singapore, on the 25th March, to receive the annual report of the Directors for the year ended December 31st, 1896. Mr. T. C. Bogaardt, Chairman of the Directors, presided, and among those present were Messrs. T. Scott Thomson (Deputy Chairman), D. W. Lovell, A. W. Stiven, and the Hon. G. S. Murray (Directors), A. S. Murray (Secretary), H. Fort (Legal Adviser), Eyal and R. Dunman (Auditors), A. Gentile, D. C. Neave, H. Abrams, Ezra, A. B. Catto, G. Pertile, A. C. Moses, Loh Yap Seng, Wan Eng Keat, Ong Tiang Soon, Tong Teck, Soh Hong Chuan, shareholders. Shares to the number of 8,459 were represented.

The Chairman said—Gentlemen, the thirteenth annual report and balance sheet of the Company has been before you for some time past, and, if there is no objection, we will take it as read. At our meeting a year ago I told you that the year 1895 had not been a favourable one for marine insurance companies generally, and, as this report shows, the outcome, so far as the Straits Company is concerned, has been very much worse even than we had any reason then to anticipate. Our business in Singapore, from which we almost invariably derive a profit, yielded a considerable loss, owing to the wrecking of the fine steamers *Rajah Brooke*, *Poh Hin Guan*, and others. The London account, however, is mainly responsible for this unfavourable balance sheet, partly due to the failure of a syndicate with whom a very considerable amount of our re-insurances were placed, and partly because of exceptionally heavy losses from which we, in common with all other offices, have suffered. But for what may be termed exceptional losses we should have been able to show a profit on the 1895 underwriting account, and we have taken steps to prevent any recurrence of loss from failure of re-insurers. Since the secretary's visit to England, we have arranged to reduce the volume of our business in the United Kingdom, where competition has brought rates for certain classes of business to a non-paying basis, and since the beginning of the year we have made re-insurance arrangements with a friendly company that will still further reduce our responsibilities in London, and our agency business is being fostered and extended in every possible direction. I may tell you further in regard to the 1895 account that the worst has been told and nothing held back, and there is some reason to hope that the whole sum of \$50,000 appropriated to close the account may not actually be required. The 1896 account, unexpired risks have been largely re-insured, and we are protecting ourselves still further in this respect, so that we may reasonably hope for some profit on the account, although the settlements so far have been heavy. Our investments have yielded slightly better interest

ings, just before rounding the Sowkewan than in the preceding year, viz., \$54,897 against \$53,267. The market value of the sterling securities on 31st December last was \$2,000 more than the value in the books of the Company, and your securities generally represent sound value for the amount invested, and are all yielding interest. The reserve for equalizing dividends, which was accumulated in more prosperous years, enables the directors to recommend the payment of a dividend to shareholders at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum for the year 1896. Ample provision has been made for the loss on 1895 account, and the balance of the 1896 underwriting account is carried forward intact. Since the publication of the report the directors have received notice of the resignation from the Board of P. C. Hoynek van Papendrecht, who has left for Europe, and they have arranged to fill the vacancy by appointing Mr. W. Naef, who is now the chief representative of the same firm in Singapore, who are valued clients of the Company. Before formally moving the adoption of the report I shall be glad to answer any questions and to give any further information desired. I beg to move that the report and accounts as printed be adopted, and that a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum be declared payable for the year 1896.

Mr. Neave seconded and it was carried.

The Chairman announced that the next business was the re-election or otherwise of the retiring Directors, Mr. T. Scott Thomson and Mr. D. W. Lovell.

Mr. Gentle moved the re-election of Messrs. Thomson and Lovell. He had ascertained by inquiring from the Chairman that the number of Directors must not be more than nine or less than five. There were at present, he believed, seven, and, since the report was drawn up, Mr. Thomson had made up his mind to go home to Europe for a short time. He (Mr. Gentle) did not think that need interfere with Mr. Thomson's services on the Board. He believed Mr. Thomson's absence would be of short duration, not exceeding six months. He trusted, therefore, that the shareholders would adopt the suggestion made in the report and re-elect Messrs. Thomson and Lovell. He questioned very much whether they could get a gentleman of more experience and longer knowledge of the Company than Mr. Thomson, and he thought that the short time Mr. Thomson would be away need not interfere with his re-election.

Mr. Ezra seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. Ezra, seconded by Mr. Abrams, the auditors were re-elected.

The Chairman announced that that concluded the business. Dividend warrants would be ready to-morrow.

Mr. Abrams moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the directors, and the staff. Mr. Bogaardt acknowledging the compliment.

The meeting then dispersed.

HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

The competition for the final ownership of the "Captain's Cup" presented in 1896 by Captain R. Murray Rumsey, R.N., has been in progress during the past fortnight and was concluded on the 4th instant, the final being won by Mr. M. Stewart, who, rather contrary to expectation, somewhat easily defeated his opponent, who was certainly out of his usual form, by 6 up and 5 to play.

Result of the competition.

1st Round.—Mr. Badeley (12) beat Mr. Hume (3) by 7 up and 5 to play; remainder byes.
2nd Round.—Mr. Badeley (12) beat Mr. G. Stewart (3) by 1 hole. Mr. May (6) beat Mr. Dalrymple (8) by 4 up and 2 to play. Mr. Robertson (15) beat Mr. Tomes (11) by 7 up and 6 to play. Mr. M. Stewart (15) beat Rev. G. B. Vallings (8) by 7 up and 5 to play.
3rd Round.—Mr. Badeley (12) beat Mr. May (6) at the 20th hole. Mr. M. Stewart (15) beat Mr. Robertson (15) by 1 hole.
Final Round.—Mr. M. Stewart (15) beat Mr. Badeley (12) by 6 up and 5 to play.

BEST SCORE CUP FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH.—Only twenty-four entries were received dur-

ing the two months, and of these seven returned cards.

Mr. O. H. Grace	90	12	78
Mr. H. W. Robertson	97	15	82
Lieut. James, R.N.	94	11	85
Mr. V. A. G. Hawkins	92	8	84
Mr. O. Palmer	100	11	89
Mr. G. Stewart	93	4	89
Mr. C. A. Tomes	100	11	89

For the future it is intended to make this competition a quarterly one, which it is hoped may lead to better entries and keener interest.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

On the 23th March the boats of both classes competed in a handicap for a handsome cup kindly presented by the Officers' Mess, Royal Engineers, to whom the Club since its inauguration owes so much support.

There was a light easterly breeze, increasing at times during the first hour of the race in strength, but falling lighter as the day wore on. A fine race ensued between Erica and Phoebe, who finished first and second for the third time in succession. The Phoebe, however, on this occasion was receiving time and saved her allowance by one minute.

The course was from the starting line at Kowloon Point, round the Channel Rocks, North Fairway buoy, and Cosmopolitan Dock buoy, leaving all to starboard, 12 miles.

Handicap: Erica and Maid Marian allow Phoebe 2 minutes, Chanticleer and Meteor 3 minutes, Active and Princess 7 minutes, She, Dart, and Ladybird 11 minutes.

The times passing pier were:—

	H.	M.	S.
Erica	12	24	18
Phoebe	12	24	48
Maid Marian	12	28	29
Meteor	12	29	12
Ladybird	12	31	28
Chanticleer	12	32	6
Princess	12	32	17
Active	12	34	15
Dart	12	34	31
She	12	34	55

FINISH.

	H.	M.	S.
Erica	1	45	17
Phoebe	1	46	15
Meteor	1	49	44
Chanticleer	2	12	33
She	2	14	58
Dart	2	15	26
Ladybird	2	17	24
Active	2	18	55

Rest did not cross line.

The Phoebe thus won and took the cup, this being the third cup presented by the Royal Engineers that her fortunate owner has succeeded in annexing.

The eleventh Club race was sailed on Sunday last in a strong north-easterly breeze, and one of the finest struggles of the season was witnessed between the two hard weather cracks Maid Marian and Chanticleer.

The course was as follows:—From Police Pier, Kowloon, leave No. 1 Dock buoy to starboard, round mark boat off Sowkewan, No. 1 Dock buoy, mark boat off Sowkewan, all to starboard, and in, 14 miles.

Only five boats in the Championship class, Maid Marian, Chanticleer, Erica, Phoebe, and Meteor, and three in the second class, started.

In the Championship class the Erica going very well soon forged ahead, and led round the Dock buoy closely pursued by Maid Marian, with Chanticleer, Phoebe, and Meteor not far behind. Off Hung Hom Point the full force of the north-easter was experienced, and Maid Marian soon closed upon Erica. These two made a long board over into Kowloon Bay, losing the benefit of the strong ebb, and Chanticleer working across the best of the tide came out a long way ahead of both off Quarry Bay. By this time the Maid Marian had sailed away from Erica, whom she left to dispute third place with the Phoebe. Chanticleer led round the Sowkewan mark, and No. 1 Dock buoy (second time) and then a magnificent race ensued between her and Maid Marian, the latter getting the best of it thanks to the consummate judgment and helmsmanship of her skipper (Mr. J. H. H.)

Mark for the second time. In the meantime Phoebe (whose recent alterations have increased her stability) had closed up on Erica, who had gone fluke hunting into Kowloon Bay, and a fine race ensued between this pair for third place. The times of finishing were:—

	H.	M.	S.
Maid Marian	1	54	41
Chanticleer	1	55	3
Erica	1	59	59
Phoebe	2	1	2

Meteor gave up.

In the Second Class the Payne scored an easy win. Well sailed by Major Lindley, she went in very good form indeed.

The Aileen, with a hard riding Major of the 19th Hussars at the helm, who in true British style could not resist the temptation of a good thrash to windward in a reefing breeze, though he had only a few hours to spend in Hongkong on his way round the world, quite wakened up to the occasion and secured second place. The Ladybird was third. The times of finishing were:—

	H.	M.	S.
Payne	2	21	46
Aileen	2	33	25
Ladybird	2	36	38

The result of Sunday's race places Maid Marian first for the Championship by 2 marks. Next Sunday's race will therefore be watched with the keenest interest, as it is the last of the series and by its result the Championship will be decided.

THE LAWN TENNIS HANDICAP.

The following are the first ties in the Cricket Club Lawn Tennis Tournament:—

CHAMPIONSHIP.

E. F. Mackay	bye	W. Bullard	bye
G. Millward	bye	W. H. Pryce-Brown	bye
P. A. Cox	bye	G. H. Potts	bye
C. C. Platt	bye	O. S. Thomson	bye
A. S. Anton	bye	H. S. Moberly	bye
H. Humphreys	bye	J. M. Atkinson	bye
H. W. Slade	bye	W. J. Mayson	bye
P. G. Anderson	bye	S. W. Farie	bye
A. H. Skelton	bye	H. S. Langhorne	bye
W. Gibson	bye	F. H. Pellow	bye
G. A. Hardings	bye	C. L. W. Bunton	bye

DOUBLE HANDICAP.

R. Koshevar and P. A. Cox	receive 15	bye
A. D. Grayson and H. S. Langhorne	owe 15.3	bye
E. D. Mallinson and H. Humphreys	scratch	bye
G. P. Lammert and A. H. Skelton	owe 15	bye
J. Hooper and W. M. Humphreys	receive 15	bye
E. C. Shepherd and J. Armstrong	receive 15	bye
C. C. Platt and F. H. Pellow	owe 15.2	bye
H. M. Brown and E. F. Mackay	owe 15	bye
C. W. Gordon and P. L. Inghen	scratch	bye
W. H. Pryce-Brown and C. L. W. Bunton	owe 15.1	bye
A. L. Oay and S. Farie	owe 15.1	bye
E. M. Knox and E. M. Hazeland	receive 15	bye
W. Gibson and C. Hume	owe 15.1	bye
G. H. Potts and A. M. Thomson	scratch	bye
A. S. Anton and G. Millward	owe 15.1	bye
D. Wood and F. D. Maclean	receive 15	bye
M. Bullard and H. W. Slade	owe 15.3	bye
P. G. Davies and A. J. Greene	receive 15	bye
W. Mayson and H. S. Cooke	receive 15	bye
E. H. Beasley and J. B. Gillingham	receive 15	bye
A. H. Mancell and R. E. Humphreys	receive 15	bye
G. Stewart and E. A. Ram	owe 15	bye
R. Isaacs and A. W. Spencer	scratch	bye
F. Collins and A. Hollingsworth	receive 15	bye
T. S. Smith and J. M. Atkinson	owe 15.3	bye
K. W. Mouney and P. G. Anderson	owe 15.1	bye

"A" CLASS SINGLE HANDICAP.

P. G. Anderson	owe 15.1	bye
C. L. W. Bunton	owe 15.1	bye
W. J. Mayson	owe 15	bye
A. J. Greene	scratch	bye
A. S. Anton	owe 15.1	bye
H. S. Moberly	owe 15.1	bye
W. H. Pryce-Brown	owe 15.1	bye
H. S. Langhorne	owe 15.3	bye
G. P. Lammert	owe 15.1	bye
P. A. Cox	owe 15.1	bye
E. F. Mackay	owe 15	bye
H. S. Penny	scratch	bye
H. W. Slade	owe 15.2	bye
H. Humphreys	owe 15	bye
F. H. Pellow	owe 15.1	bye
W. H. Gibson	owe 15.3	bye
G. W. Millward	owe 15.1	bye
A. H. Skelton	owe 15	bye
S. Farie	owe 30	bye
A. H. Mancell	receive 15	bye
W. Bullard	owe 15.3	bye
G. H. Potts	owe 15.3	bye
J. Bartrum	scratch	bye
O. D. Thomson	owe 15.2	bye

H. E. Humphreys	owe 15.3	bye
C. E. Hume	owe 15.3	bye
F. Collins	owe 15.3	bye
H. Crombie	scratch	bye
E. J. Moses	receive 15	bye
H. E. Pollock	scratch	bye
A. P. Wellman	owe 15	bye
C. Inchbald	owe 15	bye
J. Hooper	owe 15.2	bye
D. Wood	receive 15	bye
R. E. Baillios	owe 15	bye
H. Grant Smith	receive 15	bye
T. L. Stevens	receive 15	bye
W. M. Humphreys	scratch	bye
H. A. Seth	receive 15	bye
E. M. Hazeland	owe 15.2	bye
E. C. Shepherd	owe 15	bye
E. D. Mallinson	owe 15	bye
H. S. Cooke	scratch	bye
A. H. Hollingsworth	owe 1.3	bye
F. B. Deacop	owe 15	bye

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMERCIAL PAIRS.

E. F. Mackay and H. W. Slade	bye
T. S. Smith and J. M. Atkinson	bye
P. A. Cox and G. Millward	bye
J. M. Beck and W. Bullard	bye
C. Hume and W. Gibson	bye
P. G. Anderson and H. S. Moberly	bye
W. H. Pryce-Brown and C. L. W. Bunton	bye
A. D. Grayson and H. S. Langhorne	bye
Captain K. Wade and S. Farie	bye
W. J. Mayson and A. H. Skelton	bye
D. Wood and A. Hollingsworth	bye
F. H. Pellow and J. S. Bartrum	bye

VETERANS SINGLE HANDICAP.

Captain K. Wade	receive 15	bye
N. J. Saunders	receive 15	bye
H. S. Cooke	receive 15	bye
J. Hastings	receive 15	bye
T. S. Smith	owe 15.2	bye
G. Stewart	owe 15	bye
C. D. Wilkinson	scratch	bye
A. H. Skelton	owe 15	bye
W. Bullard	owe 15.3	bye
C. C. Platt	owe 30	bye
C. Inchbald	scratch	bye

THE HUANG-PU AND THE BARS.

At the annual meeting of the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company some interesting statements were made as to the value of the Company's property. Since the acquisition of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s property, the share capital has been raised to Tls. 1,510,000, and there is a debenture issue of Tls. 870,000, the properties standing in the books of the Company at Tls. 2,315,000; and the Chairman of the Company, Mr. Alford, said it would not surprise him were the actual value of the property to be some Tls. 2,500,000 or even more. Mr. Hogg followed with an even higher valuation. He said that if he knew anything of the value of property—and as to this there is no question in the public mind—the value of the concern could not be far short of Tls. 3,000,000; and Mr. Alford showed that it earned over 6 per cent. on this valuation in 1896, and it does not appear that the current expenditure has been too rigidly curtailed.

Now taking the value of the property at Tls. 3,000,000, and deducting the share capital Tls. 1,510,000, and the debenture issue, Tls. 870,000, there is left a free balance of Tls. 620,000, which we strongly recommend the directors to divide up among the shareholders by the issue of new shares, giving the shareholders two new shares fully paid-up for each five shares now held. Those who can look a little ahead will then be able to get out of the Company without loss while it is still booming.

This seems somewhat cynical advice, but it is sound, for it is perfectly certain that the Company cannot long continue its career of prosperity, unless something rouses the land-renters of Shanghai, and those who are interested in land as shareholders in some of the land-owning companies, from the apathy in which they are now plunged as to the condition of the Huang-pu river and its Bars. H. E. Sheng has been clever enough to see what is coming, and he therefore proposes to let Shanghai go, and have his wharves and railway terminus at Woosung, where the steamers are to unload and load when the river, as it will in a few years, becomes impracticable for anything but river steamers. But there is one fatal flaw even in his cleverness. The Outer Bar is rapidly becoming an insuperable obstruction, and his wharves at Woosung, if he ever builds them, will be as useless for any but very light draught steamers as those in the lower reach of our

river. We shall have to depend, in the future on a new port to be opened somewhere on the Yangtze—Sir Robert Hart long ago predicted that this would be Chinkiang—or to use the Yangtze itself below the Red Buoy as the steamer anchorage, a roadstead in place of a harbour, and have all the business of the port done by lighters as a great part of it is now; so much to the profit of the cargo-boat companies, that it is sometimes remarked that no earnest efforts are made in the direction of the conservation and improvement of the Huang-pu, because so many residents here are closely interested in the success of the cargo-boat companies. There are some, perhaps, and with them we cannot reason, who persuade themselves that Shanghai will be just as prosperous, and the land here worth just as much, when the port becomes an inland manufacturing town, connected with the Yangtze by a shallow canal, which is what the Huang-pu is rapidly becoming. We can only imagine that the agents here of land-renters at home do not appreciate the deterioration that is going on daily and hourly, and have not represented the true condition of things to their principals. When Mr. de Ryke was here a month ago, why did not the Chamber of Commerce call a public meeting and get him to explain to the community the real position of affairs, as we know that he would willingly have done? He has proved his competence, if there were any that doubted it, by the fact that the course of events has been precisely as he and his colleague, Mr. Escher, predicted in the report on the River and the Bar which they presented to the Consular Body some twenty-one years ago. Mr. de Ryke's home is in Tokyo, he is readily accessible, and we have no doubt that he would be willing, if he were asked, to come back here and explain *vis à vis* to this apathetic community the impending peril. Peril, indeed, is not a strong enough word; it has ceased to be an impending peril, and is an impending calamity.

On the 2nd of April, 1880, what was then the most important public meeting that had ever been held in Shanghai was convened at the Shanghai Club to consider this question, and that meeting decided that the community would voluntarily tax itself by the imposition of dues at the rate of one-tenth of one per cent. on the value of all merchandise imported or exported, the fund so raised to be administered by a Conservancy Board on which the mercantile community should be represented. Mr. F. B. Forbes, who moved the resolution and to whose energy and knowledge of the question the success of the meeting was mainly due, put before those present the following question:—“Shall we allow nature to take its course, and when the Bar has closed Shanghai as a port, shall we remove elsewhere and begin to build again the foundations of a great emporium like that which we have here to-day?” The same question is before us to-day, but more urgently, because the river has, as was predicted, greatly deteriorated in the past seventeen years. How do we propose to answer it?—N. U. Daily News.

THE SPECIAL ENVOY TO THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE.

The Peking correspondent of the Shanghai Daily Press says:—The appointment of Chang Yin-huan as a special envoy to England to congratulate Her Majesty Queen Victoria on her sixtieth anniversary is sure to keep H. E. Li Hung-chang in Peking for the next six months at least. Chang will be very glad of the outing and doubtless will be more powerful on his return than at present, although even now he stands high at court. He is prominently mentioned by leading Manchus for a place in the Privy Council upon his return, and this is the well-known object of his ambition. As Li Hung-tao is not improving since his paralytic attack it looks very much as though a vacancy might be ready for him on his return. It would be much more fitting in every way, however, in the event of such a vacancy, H. E. Li Hung-chang should be appointed to it rather than Chang. Some of the English residents here object to Chang being the envoy to England on the ground that his official rank does not entitle him to be received on such an occasion, as well as the fact that the Japanese refused to receive him when in company of Shio

He was deputed to try and secure an amicable preliminary to a treaty of peace. But the fact of the matter is that China will not send a prince of the blood and among the other officials Chang is a red button mandarin. Minister of the Taungli Yamen, President of a Board, and besides, as bright a man, if not brighter than any other who might be sent, excepting only the venerable ex-Viceroy Li. That the English Government is willing to receive him is attested by the fact that Sir Claude MacDonald, Her Majesty's Minister to China, entertained him at a farewell dinner on Saturday evening last (13th March) at which Li Hung-chang, Marquis Tseng, Liang Cheng, Wu N. Pethick, Gilbert Reid, Rev. Geo. Owen, and several others were present.

QUEENSLAND AND THE REVISED TREATY WITH JAPAN.

The Colony of Queensland has availed itself of its right to establish commercial relations with Japan on the basis of the Revised Treaty with Great Britain. The following is the text of the document relating to this subject:—

PROTOCOL.

"Whereas, Queensland, a Colony of Her Britannic Majesty, has this day, in due form, acceded to the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Japan and Great Britain, signed in London on the 16th day of the 7th month of the 27th year of Meiji, in accordance with the provisions of Art. XIX. thereof:—

"The undersigned, His Imperial Japan Majesty's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have agreed:—

"1.—That the stipulations contained in the first and third Article of the above-named Treaty shall not in any way affect the laws, ordinances, and regulations with regard to trade, the immigration of labourers and artisans, police and public security which are in force or may hereafter be enacted in Japan or in the said Colony of Queensland.

"2.—That the said Treaty shall cease to be binding as between Japan and the said Colony of Queensland, at the expiration of twelve months after notice shall have been given on either side of a desire to terminate the same.

"In witness whereof, the undersigned have signed the present Protocol and affixed thereto their seals.

"Done at Tokyo, this 16th day of the 3rd month of the 30th year of Meiji.

"ERNEST SATOW (seal).

"OKUMA SHIGENOBU (seal).

It will be observed that Japan pledges her subjects, visiting, or trading with, Queensland under the Revised Treaty, to abide by the laws, ordinances, and regulations of the Colony with regard to trade, the immigration of labourers and artisans, and so forth; the Queensland Government accepting a similar obligation vis-à-vis Japan. In fact, this Empire, so far as we understand its policy, does not seek to raise any difficulties about legislation that its Treaty Powers may deem essential in their own interests, provided only that they reciprocally recognise similar legislative independence on its part. Doubtless all the Australian Colonies will join the Treaty circle on the same terms. *Japan Mail.*

THE BRITISH COLONIES AND THE NEW TREATIES WITH JAPAN.

JAPANESE OPINION.

In reference to the participation of Queensland in the Anglo-Japanese Treaty, the *Nippon*, in pointing out that the colony has conditionally joined in the Treaty, says the subjects of either of the contracting parties are to enjoy freedom of travel and residence in the dominions of the other, but exception is taken to the immigration of labourers, and either country is at liberty to prohibit the landing of labourers on its shores or to expel them. The *Nippon* is apprehensive lest this exceptional stipulation should be enforced with regard to the Japanese in Queensland, and our contemporary learns from the authorities of the Foreign Office that, in case of a

Japanese Exclusion Bill being adopted in Queensland and other Australian colonies, Mr. Kato, the Japanese Minister in London, has been instructed to lodge a protest against the measure with the British Government, and take vigorous steps to induce that Government not to approve the adoption of the measure. If Her Majesty the Queen approves the measure and the Japanese are expelled from Australia in the same way as Indians or Chinese, the Japanese authorities will not hesitate to take retaliatory measures and expel Australians from Japan, and says our contemporary, Japan will never submit to the national disgrace suffered with unconcern by the Chinese Government. In case such Bills are passed, the Foreign Office assures the *Nippon* that strict discrimination will be enforced between Australians and British subjects of the United Kingdom, and strict measures will be adopted against the former.

Our Tokyo contemporary further learns that Natal and Newfoundland have unconditionally joined in the Anglo-Japanese Treaty. There remain nine British colonies and foreign possessions which have not yet signified any desire to participate in its provisions. *Kobe Chronicle.*

THE UNITED STATES TARIFF AND JAPANESE GOODS.

Tokyo, 29th March.

An official dispatch received by the Government yesterday gives the rates of import duty on Japanese goods proposed in the Tariff Bill introduced to the United States House of Representatives as follows:—

1.—\$4 per pound on *habutai* and other silk goods which weigh under one ounce per yard.

2.—Six cents per yards, or 35 per cent. *ad valorem*, on rugs which cost less than 30 cents per yard.

4.—Twelve cents per yard, or 58 to 40 per cent. *ad valorem*, on rugs which cost more than 30 cents per yard.

5.—Eight cents per yard on matting which costs less than 10 cents per yard.

6.—Eight cents per yard, or 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, on rugs which cost more than 10 cents per yard.

The Bill proposes a largely increased duty on silk goods, as compared with the rates now in force, especially on light silk goods and handkerchiefs. The duty on matting shows a large increase. Substantial increases are proposed in the duty on goods imported from Europe, and it is therefore evident that the Bill does not specially discriminate against Japanese goods. *Kobe Chronicle.*

FOREIGN NEWSPAPERS AND THE JAPANESE PRESS LAW.

In concluding an article on the session of the Japanese Diet just closed the *Japan Gazette* says:—The only other matter of moment was the passing of the Press Law. In many respects it is a great advancement on its predecessor, conferring privileges hitherto denied to journalists, but then, it contains one clause which may give rise to much dispute. It is provided that no foreigner may become the editor, printer, or publisher of a newspaper. Most of the foreign-owned newspapers in Japan are in the hands of Englishmen, but the days have long since gone by when an English Minister in Japan deemed it a duty to protect his nationals by protest. Sir Ernest Satow was notified of the fact that the bill aimed at the extinction of many businesses furnishing a livelihood to several Englishmen, but he made no sign. Yet this bill is in direct contravention of the spirit if not of the letter of the new Treaty. That Treaty was so carelessly drafted that no one seems to know what it means. It provides for the renting of factories, but not for manufacturing enterprise; it says that foreigners may enter into partnership with Japanese, but must not own land, yet the owning of land may be essential to the partnership; it does say that foreigners may own shares, though the Japanese law says they may not. This question of the press is one the Chamber of Commerce and the China Association ought to take in hand. The newspaper interests, though more than sufficiently numerous to meet the

needs of the community, are not large taking the aggregate of their capitals. But if these are to be quietly extinguished according to law, there is no doubt that the Japanese parliament will proceed to pass other laws to hamper foreigners. We do not intend, however, to be snuffed out without protest. To put one's trust in a Legation seems like relying on a broken reed, but there are other means of obtaining support. We would suggest that all journalists in Japan who are members of the Institute of Journalists should draw up a memorial stating the facts and asking the Council to bring its influence to bear on the Foreign Office. Otherwise it is clear a great injustice will be done, as nothing is mentioned in the Treaty or in the Bill of compensation. To compel all foreign newspapers to close their offices on the 1st July, 1899, would ruin the properties and throw many Englishmen out of work. Only two years remain and we would suggest to our fellow editors that whatever is to be done must be done quickly.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO"]

At about 7 a.m. on the 1st instant the sky was lowering and overclouded, and afterwards a violent wind sprang up from the north-west accompanied with heavy rain. The violence of the storm lasted about an hour and a half. Many houses were damaged and some were unroofed. A school in Tung-man Street was blown to the ground and some trees in Honam were uprooted. All boats took shelter in places of safety.

The Prefect of Kwang-chow issued a notice some days ago allowing rice to be exported from Canton to an amount not exceeding 500,000 shik (one shik is equal to sixty-four catties) per annum. The export was limited to this amount by H. E. Chang, Chih-tung during his viceroyalty at Canton, but really the Government takes no notice of how much is exported.

A gunboat, together with four steam launches, was sent by the Government under the command of a military officer to Sun-tak district to capture robbers. As they were steaming to Tachow three robbers' junks were observed sailing along. The junks were at once fired upon by the gunboat, and one of the junks, seeing that the time was not favourable for them, quickly sailed away. The other two, which continued the fighting till their ammunition was exhausted, were seized and forty-one robbers were captured. They have all been brought to Canton for trial. Thirty-nine of them have confessed that they committed robberies of various descriptions.

On the 30th ultimo all the Wai-san lottery houses were destroyed by the people, because they failed to refund the money paid in, when they were not allowed to open on account of their being unable to meet the demands of the Government. A large crowd broke into the houses and destroyed everything. It was no wonder that the people destroyed the houses under the circumstances. The kaifong people at once closed the gates of the street, being afraid that the matter would result in a very serious condition of affairs. The people did not disperse till the arrival of the Namhoi Magistrate, who at once issued a notice to the effect that he would get the Wai-san people to refund the money.

It is said that the Macao Government has consented to abolish the guard near Chin-san.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT]

On Sunday night last, about half-past ten, an explosion took place in a gunpowder depot on a hill near Boa Vista Hotel. It is said that for some time past the proprietors have been continually missing powder, and have been unable to find out who took it. On Sunday night, after the explosion, the corpse of a man was found inside. At first it was thought it might be one of the workmen in the employ of the firm, but on these being mustered it was found that no one was missing, and that the corpse was therefore that of a stranger. The magazine had a mat roof and it is believed the man made an opening through it, and when he got inside, struck a match to have

look round, with the result that the powder exploded and he himself was killed. There was only five or six piculs of powder in the magazine, as this is the maximum weight allowed by the Government to be stored in one place. Nothing was felt of the explosion in the city nor even in houses near the scene of the occurrence, but many people saw the great column of flame that shot up when the explosion took place.

The *Echo Macaense* says that the Leal Senado is thinking of doing away with the beef monopoly, or at least of making a three months' trial of free trade in the article. It will afford the greatest possible satisfaction if the monopoly is abolished, and the Leal Senado should not stop at the beef monopoly but do away with all other monopolies that are opposed to the public welfare. All descriptions of business should be free and open to everyone. The Senado should also call the attention of the Government to the monopolies under the control of the Government and for which the Senado is not responsible. Another matter that should be aimed at is the reduction of the rates on property, which the Senado increased some time ago. The members know how much we are paying in indirect taxation and how everything is becoming dearer and dearer day by day.

The Leal Senado should also urge on the Lisbon Government, in the strongest terms possible, the necessity of reducing the port dues. The public gains nothing now by the Timor or American mails calling, and the coasting steamers that formerly frequented the port have now quite deserted it, on account of the heavy taxation to which they are subjected if they come. It is time for the Government and the Senado to wake up from their long sleep and see what can be done to bring back the shipping trade. As the proverb says, "Better late than never."

Although many rumours are in circulation about the Island of Dom Joa affair I believe things remain in *statu quo*. I hope the two Governments will be able to arrive at a satisfactory solution of the difficulty.

HONGKONG.

The only thing talked about in the colony at the present time is the Diamond Jubilee celebrations and the form the permanent memorial shall take, and these important questions are being carefully considered by a Committee and also discussed by the general public.

Mr. Blamey, Manager of the Punjom Co.'s mines, arrived at Hongkong by the P. & O. steamer *Mirzapore* on Saturday, having been summoned to confer with the directors.

The Right Rev. L. M. Piazzoli begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations for the Home of the Aged and Infirm:—

Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly & Potts \$25
Messrs. Chater & Mody (second contribution) 25

The Siamese barque *Charon Wattana* arrived from Bangkok on the 31st March in charge of the first officer, Mr. P. Pannenberf; the master, Captain G. Koch, having died on the 24th March. The vessel left Bangkok on the 28th February.

The Right Hon. Arnold Morley, who was Postmaster-General in the two last administrations, arrived by the P. & O. steamer *Mirzapore* on Saturday. Mr. Morley is on a tour round the world and left again by the *Empress of China* on Wednesday.

We have received the opening numbers of the *Japan Times*, the new daily published at Tokyo. Its object is to present to the foreign public Japanese sentiments and motives. We congratulate our contemporary on the excellence of its contents and its general "get up."

In the Supreme Court on the 5th April before Sir John Carrington (Chief Justice), Mr. Oswald Dykes Thomson, of London, was admitted to practice as a solicitor in the Supreme Courts. Mr. Thomson is in the office of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings, and he was introduced by Hon. W. M. Goodman (Attorney-General).

Mr. H. B. Lethbridge, Superintendent of Victoria Gaol, was a passenger by the N.D.L. steamer *Sachsen* for England, on leave. Hon. F. H. May, Captain Superintendent of Police, will act for Mr. Lethbridge during the latter's absence in addition to discharging the duties of his own office.

The appointment of the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Captain Superintendent of Police, to act as Superintendent of Victoria Gaol during the absence of Mr. H. B. Lethbridge is notified in the *Gazette*.

On the 30th March a lot of land at No. 9 Police Station, with the erection and buildings thereon, was sold by auction by Mr. J. C. Prosser. The term is 999 years and the land contains 4,047 square feet. The annual rental is \$160 and the upset price was \$3,150. There were two bidders and the price rose to \$4,200, for which sum the lot was knocked down to Mr. Fung Wa Chuen.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that seamen serving in vessels belonging to the C. P. R., the P. & O., or other subsidised merchant cruisers may join the Naval Reserve on application to the Commodore; also that payments for retainers to Royal Naval Reserve men may be made in Hongkong. This is a wise step on the part of the Admiralty, and ought to lead to the strengthening of the reserve. Hitherto men have only been able to join at home.

As the P. & O. steamer *Rotetta*, with the homeward mail, was approaching Hongkong on Monday night, about ten o'clock, she collided with a fishing junk. The lifeboat was promptly lowered and careful search made for the crew of the junk, but no trace of them could be found. There was a large fleet of fishing junks in the neighbourhood and it is possible that the crew of the junk that was run down may have been picked up by a companion craft.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following telegrams from the mines giving the result of the March clean-up:—"The mill ran 30 days crushing 960 tons of ore yielding 231 ozs. of smelted gold. 940 tons of headings crushed yielding 100 ozs. of gold. Fifty tons of concentrates calcined yielding 47 ozs. of gold." "The cyanide plant worked 23 days treating 740 tons of tailings yielding 289 ozs. of bullion of an average assay value of 15/9 per ounce."

On Tuesday morning a large and fashionable gathering assembled in St. John's Cathedral, which was prettily decorated for the occasion, to witness the marriage of Mr. J. W. Bolles, of the Standard Oil Company, to Miss Noyes, daughter of Captain Noyes, of the American bark *Coloma*. The reception was subsequently held at the residence of Mr. Hunt, American Consul, and in the afternoon the bride and bridegroom left for Macao, amidst the hearty congratulations of their many friends.

Inspector Mann was complimented by the Magistrate on Saturday for gallant conduct. The inspector saw a man in the water off No. 2 Police Station on the 30th March and he swam out and succeeded in bringing the man, who was trying to commit suicide, ashore. He was in a most exhausted condition and for half an hour Inspector Mann applied artificial respiration and then sent him to the hospital. He was charged at the Magistracy on Saturday with attempting to commit suicide, but on medical grounds he was ordered to be sent back to the hospital.

A very pleasant tea and entertainment was held in the Union Church Hall on Friday night by the Christian Endeavour Society to bid farewell to friends who are leaving the China fleet for home. The hall was prettily decorated with flags and ferns. After tea the following programme was carried out, under the presidency of the Rev. G. J. Williams, who made a short speech full of good advice to those who are leaving:—

Opening Chorus "Rejoice in the Lord" C. E. Choir.
Recitation "The Bridgekeeper's Story" Mr. Bailey.
Solo..... "Deathless Army"..... Mr. Gilchrist.
Reading..... "Beautiful Snow"..... Mr. Ramage.
Mrs. Williams was then presented with a handsome album from the members of the crew of the *Centurion* who attended the services at the Union Church.

Solo "Side by side to the Better Land" Mrs. Brown.
Address..... Mr. Pitt.
Solo "Hushed was the evening hymn" Mr. Terrell.
Recitation..... "The Leper"..... Mr. Ward.
Solo..... "Home Sweet Home" Miss Crawford.
Reading..... "A Brave Defender" Mr. Martlew.
Recitation..... "Bingen on the Rhine" Mr. Plinston.
Speeches were also made by Messrs. Ramage and Elliot.

Mr. J. P. Jackson having resigned the chairmanship of the Hongkong Branch of the China Association, Mr. J. L. Francis, Q.C., has been elected by the Committee to that office.

Another case of dumping rubbish into the harbour came before Commander Hastings on Saturday, when three men were charged with the offence. They made fast their boat to a buoy and waited until they thought darkness would cover their ill deeds, but as soon as the dumping process commenced the police observed them. Each defendant was fined \$50.

At the Supreme Court on the 2nd April A. M. Baptista, the clerk employed by Mr. Granville Sharp, against whom a receiving order was granted on Thursday, was summoned in the Summary Jurisdiction for two debts due to Indians, the total amount being \$110. Mr. Ho Wyson represented the plaintiffs and on his application the cases were adjourned *sine die*.

A coolie in the Afforestation Department was charged at the Police Court on the 5th April with attempting to extort \$1 from a Chinaman. On Sunday the complainant accidentally set fire to the grass in the Chinese cemetery at Pokfulam and the defendant went up to him and demanded \$1 in lieu of being taken before Mr. Tutecher, the Acting Superintendent. Fortunately there happened to be a lunkong praying in the cemetery and he overheard the conversation. He at once released himself from his devotions, collared the coolie, and took him to the police station. He was fined \$25.

About 1.20 a.m. on the 1st April a fire broke out on the first floor of an eating house at 14, Cross Street. Inspector Mann turned out with some firemen from the neighbouring station and in a very short time after the firemen from the Central District arrived. The fire, however, spread with remarkable rapidity and the whole house was gutted and the upper floor of No. 12, Cross Street, burnt out before the flames were extinguished. The contents of No. 14 were insured with Messrs. Holliday, Wise & Co. in the Manchester Insurance Company for \$3,200. The fire is supposed to have originated by the falling of a paraffin lamp which was dangling over the staircase leading from the first floor.

A soldier in the Hongkong Regiment was fined \$10 at the Police Court on the 31st March for stealing \$1, a hat, and three keys from a Shanghai Chinaman. The prosecutor, who is the cook on the steamer *Chusan*, was walking near the Kowloon forts when he noticed the board prohibiting anyone from entering. Just as he was turning away the defendant called to him and asked him to go inside. Prosecutor, fearing the consequences, declined and then defendant struck him with a cane, took off his hat, and rifled his pockets of the keys and five 20 cent pieces. The prosecutor got away and reported the matter to Inspector Butlin and the accused was arrested.

There was rather an exciting scene in the harbour on Sunday morning. About nine o'clock Mr. C. Holdsworth took a sampan from the pier in front of the Eastern Mica Works intending to go to the city. The wind was very gusty and when near Bay View the sampan capsized and Mr. Holdsworth, three men, and one child were thrown into the water, while a woman and an infant were confined in a cabin. Luckily the accident was witnessed from some steamers in the harbour and two boats were put off to the rescue, and all the people were saved. Nearly an hour elapsed, however, before the woman and her child were got out of the boat, a hole having to be cut through by a Chinese carpenter.

The following returns of the average amount of Bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong during the month ended 31st March, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks, are published:—

Banks	Average Amount	Specie in Reserve
Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	\$1,935,600	\$1,000,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	\$5,701,753	\$2,500,000
National Bank of China, Limited	\$391,672	\$205,000
Total	\$8,029,025	\$3,705,000

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Netherland Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:

Tai Shing Paper Manufacturing Co., Ltd. \$25
 Hon. E. H. May, C.M.G. 10
 W. J. T. 5
 A. S. Cohen 5

The Band of the West Yorkshire Regiment will not perform on Sunday in future, owing to a protest having been received from St. John's Cathedral. The Band performances took place at half past twelve, at which hour the morning service at the Cathedral very often was not concluded, and Murray Barracks being so close to the Cathedral worship was interrupted.

About 12.30 on Saturday morning a fire broke out in an eating house at 128, Queen's Road Central. Damage, which was principally caused by water, to the extent of \$200 was done before the Fire Brigade left. The place was insured for \$41,850 with Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co. in the North British Mercantile Insurance Office.

On the 31st March Commander Hastings concluded the inquest respecting the death of the man who was killed owing to the fall of a house at 35, East Street. The jury were:—Messrs. H. C. Wilcox, A. A. H. Botelho, and G. Pappier. The following verdict was returned:—"That the deceased came to his death by the collapse of No. 35, East Street, due to the shoring having giving way," and the following rider was added:—"We are further of opinion that in similar cases, viz., where party walls have been or are being taken down, no persons, whether tenants or workpeople, should be allowed to occupy the house, and that all operations should be performed under skilled European supervision."

The following are the weights for the Six Furlongs Handicap to be run at the first Gymkhana on Saturday next:—

	Height.	Weight.
Tocsin	13.2	12.2
Polo	13	11.9
Gleniffer	13.1	11.6
Sidmouth	13	11.6
Morrison	13	11.4
Hastaway	13.2	11.3
Red Fire	13.2	11.1
Maggie, late Arthurlie	13	11
Yarmouth Bloat	12.3	10.13
Sport	13.2	10.10
Saucy	12.3	10.9
Wakeful Joe	12.3	10.4
Little Owl	13.1	10

At the recent examination of the London College of Music all the candidates sent in from the Diocesan School were successful. Two pupils passed in the elementary section of pianoforte playing, one of them obtaining honours. Only two other candidates in the colony were awarded this special distinction. Another candidate, Edward S. Ford, was very successful in musical theory, junior pass section, obtaining 94 marks out of a possible 100. This candidate also passed in the intermediate section of pianoforte playing, and is the only candidate from any school in the colony who entered for so advanced a section. At an examination held at the school by the Tonic Solfa College in December last, the following successes were obtained:—Elementary section. Edward S. Ford, Alfred J. Mackie. Elementary theory—Alfred J. Mackie. Staff Notation, first grade—Edward S. Ford.

An extraordinary attack and highway robbery was reported to Inspector Butlin on 30th March. A compradore from Samshuipo and his coolie went on Tuesday afternoon to the frontier bungalow at Kowloon to collect some money due by Customs officers for provisions. After settling their business the compradore and the coolie started to return, and when near the boundary fence they were suddenly attacked by five men who tied their arms and gagged them, robbed them of \$585, and then bolted into British territory, some getting under and some over the fence. The victims managed to release themselves in a few minutes and they started in pursuit of the thieves, who, however, got out of sight at Mongkok village. The police are in possession of the gags which the robbers used, and one of them has blood and teeth marks upon it. No arrests have yet been made.

There were 1,965 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 154 were Europeans.

On the 31st March Mr. F. Browne gave a lecture on the X-rays at a meeting of the Odd Volumes Society held at the City Hall. Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart presided and in introducing the lecturer said that the only practical use the X-rays had been in Hongkong was, as far as he knew, to ascertain if the pheasant was properly cooked and the shot extracted—a process which he believed, the dentists of the colony had entered a protest against. After this little joke, which, judging by the silence, was not properly appreciated, Mr. Browne commenced his lecture, which was most entertaining. He gave an excellent history of the wonderful discovery and then spoke of its purposes, its uses, and its application. He also showed some photographs which Mr. Gale had taken and at the conclusion many of those present had the pleasure of viewing the bones of their hands by the aid of the rays, the first to experiment being H.E. the Governor. Mr. Browne was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

At the Police Court on the 2nd April eight boatmen were charged with dumping rubbish into the harbour. They were in the employ of the contractor engaged by the Government and under no circumstances are they permitted to throw rubbish into the harbour. About five o'clock on Tuesday afternoon Inspector Hanson was in a police pinnace at the back of Stonecutter's Island when he saw the men upsetting rubbish into the harbour from the contractor's boat. The men caught sight of the Inspector almost as soon as he saw them and they at once ceased their illegal work. The Inspector then adopted the ruse of appearing to take no notice of them and steamed in an opposite direction, and shortly afterwards the dumping process was continued. Then Inspector Hanson wheeled round, whereupon all the men hurried below after putting the boat to the wind, but the pinnace overtook her and the men were charged with the offence. They were each fined \$5.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The trouble among the Sikh Police at Shanghai has been settled by the dismissal of some twenty of them and the return to duty of the remainder.

According to the *N. Y. Maritime Register* of the 24th February the American 4-masted schooner *Aida*, Capt. Anderson, which left Shanghai on the 1st of December last for Royal Roads, British Columbia, has not since been heard from.

It is reported that in spite of the great efforts made by the Viceroy Chang and Lu to relieve the famine in Hupeh and Szechuan, respectively, certain parts of the affected districts have resorted to cannibalism to sustain life.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A large rice-cleaning mill is soon to be built outside the East Gate of the city of Wuhu, the machinery, etc., to be entirely of foreign make. It is reported that members of H.E. Li Hung-chang's family are largely interested in the new venture.—*N. C. Daily News*.

It is reported, according to the Tientsin correspondent of the *Mercury*, that Imperial sanction has been granted to a company intending to run small steamers on the Grand Canal to Paotingfu and to Tungchow by the Peiho. The present capital is Tls. 100,000. This is regarded as a right departure.

At Shanghai on the 27th March Major G. J. Morrison, the former commandant of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps, was presented with a beautiful silver bowl subscribed for among the members of the Corps as some acknowledgment of their appreciation of his services whilst in command. All the officers were present, and a considerable number of men.

The Municipal Commissioners of Singapore propose to float a loan of half a million dollars at the rate of four per cent. Of that sum, \$264,000 are to be devoted to the repayment of the five per cent. loan of 1893; \$182,000 are to be expended on various works connected with the supply of water; \$40,000 are to be expended on the construction of a new jirikisha depot, and the balance of \$16,000 is for various minor purposes.

We (*Kobe Chronicle*) understand that Mr. Macavish, agent of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in Kobe, proceeds to take up his appointment at Amoy in April. Mr. Macavish will be greatly missed in Kobe, both privately and publicly. It is believed that Mr. R. Home Cook, who was agent in Kobe some six or seven years ago, will take the place vacated by Mr. Macavish.

Captain T. E. Cocker, the Acting Deputy Harbour Master, and a very popular resident of Shanghai, was on Wednesday evening, 31st March, entertained by brother Masons at a farewell dinner at the Masonic Club, on the occasion of his leaving Shanghai for Canton, to which port he has been transferred in connection with the opening of the West River. Mr. O. Middleton presided, and a very pleasant evening was spent, the occasion being doubly interesting through it coinciding with the fifteenth anniversary of the Club.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Out of the overflowing fullness of his heart, says the *N. C. Daily News*, the King of Korea issued the following edict to his loving subjects on the 8th inst. The accomplishment of our return to the Palace is the greatest joy of our subjects. In order to celebrate the event, we hereby order the departments to act on the following matters:—(1) To offer a grand sacrifice to Heaven and Earth, to the Royal Ancestors and to *Sajik* (another class of Deities with whom we are not acquainted). (2) To raise the rank of every official who has already obtained the sixth rank. (3) To give some rice to those officials who have already obtained the 2nd rank, and to those who are over 80 years of age, and to give royal compliments to even the common people who are over 90 years of age. (4) To feast the soldiers of the different regiments. (5) To aid and comfort the sick, the poor, widows, widowers, the childless, and the parentless. (6) To pardon those who are serving out sentences of trifling crimes. (7) To reduce the sentence of those who have been banished. (8) To release those prisoners whose offences are not so great as to deserve a lenient consideration from us. The great blessed fate has come to us from Heaven, earth, moon, and sun, and prosperity settled upon our people from now and evermore. Therefore let this edict be known to all.

A fire broke out at about 1.30 a.m. on the 25th March in a large theatre in Canton Road, Shanghai. The general alarm was given, but before the brigade had time to arrive the whole building was one mass of flame. In spite of the most strenuous efforts of the firemen, the conflagration communicated itself to the surrounding buildings, which consisted principally of large native boarding houses. Very great difficulty was experienced by the brigade in fighting the flames, owing to the confined nature of the scene of the outbreak, the place being a perfect labyrinth of alleyways, which rendered it not only a difficult but a highly dangerous matter to get at the seat of the conflagration. Every now and then one of the flimsily built walls fell outwards, completely blocking the narrow alleyways with bricks and other debris, and several men had very narrow escapes. It was not until nearly six o'clock that the fire had been so far subdued as to enable the men to leave for home. The theatre in which the fire originated together with six other large houses, was totally destroyed, and twelve other buildings were so badly damaged as to be practically a total loss. The fire started among some paper scenery in the theatre, but its cause is at present unknown. The property was owned by Mr. E. J. Hogg and Messrs. Bisset & Co. The amount of the damage is estimated at from Tls. 25,000 to Tls. 30,000, most of which is covered by insurance. The following fire insurance companies were interested to the amounts named:—Buildings: Hongkong Fire, Tls. 2,000; China Fire, Tls. 5,500; Sun, Tls. 8,000; Contents: South British, Tls. 1,500; Royal, Tls. 1,200; Imperial, Tls. 5,000. It is to be hoped that before the Council grant permits for the rebuilding of the premises destroyed it will be stipulated that the alleyways shall be wide enough to admit at least of the passage of a hose-reel. These narrow alleyways are a danger to the public health, and a great danger in case of fire.—*N. C. Daily News*.

It is reported that very favourable news was received by the Shanghai-Lankat Co. yesterday, says the *N. C. Daily News* of the 1st April, and the shares rose from Tls. 465 to Tls. 510.

We (*N. C. Daily News*) learn that the Governor of Chikiang has cheerfully conceded all Sir Nicholas Hennen's demands, all outstanding difficulties at Hangchow being now settled. The Japanese House of Peers on the 24th March passed the Raw Silk Direct Export Encouragement Bill and the Bill to grant a subsidy for the extension of the sales of tea.

News has been received by wire at Shanghai of the death at home of Mr. F. G. White, a very old and popular resident of Shanghai, for many years with the firm of Gibb, Livingston & Co. He died on the 10th March.

We (*N. C. Daily News*) regret very much to have to announce the death, which occurred at 0.30 p.m. on the 2nd April, of Mr. W. H. Short, manager of the extensive business of Hall & Holtz, Limited. Mr. Short, who was very much and deservedly liked by all who knew him as a man of wide sympathies and great kindness of heart, was born in 1843, and came to China originally in 1856, his first residence being in Foochow. Two years later he came to Shanghai and went on to Tientsin. There he remained until 1860, when he returned to Shanghai and joined the firm of Hall & Holtz, with which he has been ever since connected. His health broke down some three or four years ago, and on Wednesday (31st March) he was attacked by internal hæmorrhage, and soon became unconscious, remaining so until the end came. Mr. Short was never married.

An old, well-known, and popular resident left Shanghai for good on Saturday, 27th March, in the person of Mr. C. J. Holliday. Not only was he very prominent as a merchant and in the social life of the community, but he did a great deal of public work as Commander of the Volunteers, in the Municipal Council as responsible for the reorganisation of the Police some fourteen years ago, and as a leading member of the A.D.C. Energetic, capable, and genial, Mr. C. J. Holliday takes with him the best wishes of the community.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A Chinese syndicate under the leadership of a Mr. Chu has purchased a piece of land measuring over seventy mow at Pootung, opposite the Ta Shun Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills at Yangtsepoo, for the purpose of being made into a shipbuilding and dockyard. All the machinery and plant have been already ordered from Europe. Work on the ground will commence on the 9th instant under contract which must be completed by October next, so that the whole establishment shall be able to bid in the market for repairing and building ships with the commencement of the winter months.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The *Kobe Herald* of the 22nd March says:—The French steamer *Ernest Simons* got ashore alongside the pier in coming in this morning. She was in the hands of Pilot Harris. Some time was spent in fruitless efforts to bring the big steamer alongside and finally, after backing and filling several times, and endeavouring to warp her in—in the course of which work a couple of bollards and a portion of the pier were torn away—her forefoot was placed hard and fast on the sand, where it now lies. The passengers were landed in boats. The mishap will not delay the steamer, as the cargo is being discharged into lighters. She is expected to float off without trouble at high water to-night, between 9 and 10 o'clock.

The local mandarins have received despatches from Peking notifying them that the Emperor has been pleased to appoint H. E. Hsu Chin-cheng, retiring Minister to Russia, Germany, and Austria, to be the President of the proposed Russo-Chinese Railways in Manchuria, i.e., the three Eastern Provinces, comprising Feng-tien, Kirin, and Heilungkiang. The new President will reside in St. Petersburg, which is to be the headquarters of the railway. The Vice-President is to be a Russian. H. E. Yang Ju, the retiring Minister to Washington, Madrid, and Lima, will also reside at St. Petersburg, as Minister Plenipotentiary of China to that Court. H. E. Sheng Hsuan-huai will therefore have nothing to do with the Manchurian Railways, as was first reported.—*N. C. Daily News*.

COMMERCIAL

TEA

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao	38,696,967	42,094,874
Shanghai and Hankow	18,410,818	21,817,405
Foochow	12,749,508	14,676,078
	69,856,786	78,588,352

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow	22,949,123	27,240,863

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	19,809,591	29,094,771
Amoy	19,022,416	14,665,055
Foochow	11,716,764	13,199,184
	50,548,770	55,959,010

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	27,566,463	29,871,404
Kobe	14,961,219	18,622,439
	42,527,682	48,423,837

SILK

CANTON, 6th April.—Tasties and Re-reels.—We have no business to report in these classes and prices are unchanged. \$485 was offered for contracts in new season's Re-reels No. 1, but dealers are unwilling to sell ahead. Filatures.—A little business has been done during the fortnight, the quantity offered for sale being very small. From prices paid we quote: \$680 for Min King Lun 11/13, \$680 for Kwong Sun On, Kwong Lun Fung, and Kwong Wo Hing 11/13, \$660 for Wing Wo Lun 9/11 and Kwong King Cheong 9/11, \$650 for Cheong Lee 9/11, \$640 for Kwong King Loong and Yik Kee 10/12, and \$620/6.0 for Lee King Lun 11/13 and 13/15, \$600 for Sui Lun Hing 12/14, \$570 for King Wo Cheong and Wai King Wo 18/22. Short-reels.—Are very scarce and held at very high prices, \$640 having been paid for Yut Cheong Wo 14/16, and \$560 for Kum Lun 14/16. Waste.—Steam has been in fairly good inquiry and rates close firmer. Stocks:—Tasties, 500 bales; Filatures, 1,000 bales.

Shanghai, 2nd April.—(From Mr. A. R. Burskill's Circular).—London advices are to 31st ult., and quote: "Gold Kilins at 8/6, and Blue Elephants 9/10, market firm. Raw Silk.—We have had a fairly active market during the week at full and in some cases higher prices. Exchange has, however, ruled in favour of buyers. Tasties.—About 500 bales have been booked on a basis of Tls. 380 for Gold Kilins. Stocks are now very much reduced. Hangchows.—One or two small parcels have found buyers at quotations. Tysams.—A parcel of Chinoms and some Skeins, about 100 bales in all, are going forward. Yellow Silk.—Only 50 piculs settled. Arrivals very small. Arrivals, as per Custom Returns, 25th to 31st March: 1,000 bales White, 7 piculs Yellow, and 12 piculs Wild Silks. Filatures.—About 200 bales Steam Filatures are reported settled, and some 5,600 bales of Hand Filatures have been taken, ordinary and X reels for the Lyons and New York markets. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: to London 21 bales, to Continent 2,781 bales, and to America 2,893 bales. Wild Silk.—A parcel of 3 Joas Chop 8 Cocoons has been settled at Tls. 310, forward. About 2,000 bales are now coming in by first steamers from the North, most or all of which is under contract. Waste Silk.—A Settlement of 200 piculs of Curleas 1, 2 and 3 is reported at Tls. 50, an advance of 5 per cent. during the week.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA

	1896-97	1895-96
	bales	bales
Canton	4,199	15,690
Shanghai	6,788	9,544
Yokohama	19,686	27,221
	30,673	52,455

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE

	1896-97	1895-96
	bales	bales
Canton	22,216	15,690
Shanghai	45,707	57,751
Yokohama	18,334	19,757
	86,257	93,198

CAMPHOR

HONGKONG, 7th April.—The market has become more active and there has been a sharp rise in rates. Quotations for Formosa are nominally \$49.75 to \$50.00. Sales, 170 piculs.

SUGAR

HONGKONG, 7th April.—The market continues dull and prices are declining. Quotations are:—Shikloong, No. 1, White: \$7.20 to \$7.22 per pol; do. " 2, White: 6.65 to 6.68; do. " 2, Brown: 4.40 to 4.43; Swallow, No. 1, White: 7.12 to 7.15; do. " 2, White: 6.42 to 6.45; Swallow, No. 1, Brown: 4.30 to 4.34; do. " 2, Brown: 4.22 to 4.25; Soochow Sugar Candy: 11.00 to 11.25; Shikloong: 9.42 to 9.45.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS

The German steamer *Kriemhild*, sailed on the 9th March. From Hongkong for Havre: 350 packages tea, 75 rolls mats, 11 cases bamboo baskets, 4 boxes feathers, 1 box vases, 1 case ricepaper, 45 bales canes and 1 case china ink. For Havre option Hamburg: 300 cases cassia and 10 bales canes. For Havre option Hamburg and 10 bales canes. For Havre option Hamburg option London: 722 boxes camphor, 17 cases essential oil. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London and/or Antwerp: 350 cases bristles. For Hamburg: 30 bales rattan shavings, 43 bales rattan, 587 bales canes, 251 cases bristles, 367 bales feathers, 20 cases aniseed oil, 600 cases camphor, 800 cases cassia lignea, 1,350 cases cassia, 14 cases curies, 3 cases paper, 100 bags gallnuts, 50 cases gallnuts, 12 cases tea sticks, 52 cases ginger, 120 cases ginger, 230 packages fireworks and 47 packages sundries. For Hamburg option London: 50 cases cassia buds, 3 cases bristles and 500 cases cassia. For Copenhagen: 7 crates rattan furniture. For Lisbon: 13 cases china and lacquered ware. For New York: 5 cases bristles, 37 cases cassia, 40 cases staraniseed oil and 25 cases essential oil.

The steamship *Maria Rickmers*, sailed on the 25th March. For Hamburg: 4 cases curies, 50 cases staraniseed, 100 bales galangal, 159 bales feathers and 505 packages merchandise.

The steamer *Kaiser-i-Hind*, sailed on the 25th March. For London: 5 cases sundries (from Foochow), 105 cases canes, 12 bales silk piece goods, 95 bales bambooware, 20 cases bristles, 8 cases sundries and 100 cases cassia buds. For Gibraltar: 2 cases tea and sundries. For France: 1,106 bales raw silk, 25 bales waste silk and 36 cases silk piece goods. For Venice: 20 cases cleaned bristles. For London and/or Manchester: 76 bales waste silk. For Milan: 30 bales raw silk.

OPIUM

HONGKONG, 7th April.—Bengal.—The market has continued dull and without any important change in rates. New Patna closing at \$650, Old Patna at \$670, New Benares at \$631, and Old Benares at \$700.

Malwa.—New descriptions have been added, favour, whilst Old has been dealt in to a fair extent and has improved in value. Current quotations are as under:—New (this yr's) \$760 with allance of 44 to 51; (last yr's) \$770; Old (2/3) \$800; (5/7) \$825.

Persian.—There has been a decline in price owing to a cessation of the demand for Formosa, the market closing dull at \$500 to \$700 for Old and at \$550 to \$710 for Paper-wrapped, according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—New Patna: 1,700; Old Patna: 2,000; New Benares: 1,500; Old Benares: 1,500; Malwa: 1,500; Persian: 1,500.

CLOSING OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET

DATE	PATNA		BENARES		MALWA	
	New	Old	New	Old	New	Old
Mar. 31	\$ 650	6732	685	700	760	825
Apr. 1	652 1/2	672 1/2	685	700	760	825
Apr. 2	652 1/2	673 1/2	682 1/2	700	760	825
Apr. 3	652 1/2	673 1/2	680	700	760	825
Apr. 4	652 1/2	673 1/2	680	700	760	825
Apr. 5	650	672 1/2	685	700	760	825
Apr. 6	650	672 1/2	682 1/2	700	760	825
Apr. 7	650	670	651 1/2	700	760	825

RICE

Hongkong, 30th March.—The market remains as last reported. Quotations are:—
 Saigon Ordinary \$2.18 to 2.20
 Round, good quality 2.52 to 2.54
 Long 2.40 to 2.42
 Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ... 2.27 to 2.30
 Garden, No. 1 ... 2.63 to 2.65
 White 3.20 to 3.22
 Fine Cargo 3.31 to 3.33

COTTON

Hongkong, 7th April.—There has been a fair amount of business transacted at current rates. Stock about 4,500 bales.
 Bombay \$15.75 to 17.00 p. pl.
 Kurrachee 15.50 to 17.00
 Bengal, Bangoon, and Dacca 16.25 to 17.75
 Shanghai and Japanese 21.00 to 22.00
 Tunchow and Ningpo 21.00 to 22.00
 Madras 17.00 to 17.50
 Sales: 1,700 bales Bengal, Bangoon, and Dacca.

COALS

Hongkong, 7th April.—Market weak. Quotations are:—
 Cardiff — to 16.50 ex' godown, nom.
 Australian \$6.75 to 8.00 ex ship.
 Milke Lump 6.50 to 7.00 ex ship, nominal.
 Milke Small — to — none offering
 Moji Lump 6.75 to 8.00 ex ship, firm.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Hongkong, 7th April.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—
 YARN AND PRICE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn.—490 bales No. 10 at \$82.50 to \$90.50, 415 bales No. 12 at \$83 to \$92.50, 380 bales No. 16 at \$89.50 to \$93, 355 bales No. 20 at \$92.50 to \$100.
 Grey Shirtings.—300 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Cock at \$2.57 1/2, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Green Cock at \$2.27 1/2, 1,400 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$1.97 1/2, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Red Cock at \$2.50, 400 pieces 7 lbs. Blue Lion at \$1.92 1/2, 350 pieces 10 lbs. Women at \$3.55, 900 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. 3 Dogs at \$2.95, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue 2 Fish at \$2.72 1/2, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Mandarin at \$3.65. White Shirtings.—250 pieces Green Stag at \$3.37 1/2, 1,000 pieces No. 600 at \$4.27 1/2, 1,000 pieces No. 3 at \$3.10, 150 pieces E. K. at \$5.75, 500 pieces No. 300 at \$3.47 1/2, 600 pieces Gold Tiger at \$5.92 1/2, 500 pieces X. 9 at \$4.47 1/2, 500 pieces O.O.O. at \$5.22 1/2.
 Cloths.—1,200 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Hunter and Stag C.C. at \$3.05, 400 pieces 7 lbs. Blue Lion at \$1.92 1/2, 850 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Gold Pheasant at \$1.90, 1,125 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican 4 Stags at \$2.07 1/2, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Red Stag at \$2.32 1/2, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Silver Lion No. 1 at \$1.85, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Silver Lion No. 2 at \$1.82.
 Victoria Lains.—1,000 pieces Red Dragon and Bird at \$0.75, 1,000 pieces Green Dragon and Bird at \$0.85. Drills.—75 pieces 15 lbs. American at \$4.50.
 Metals.—Iron.—4,000 bundles nail rods, Belgian, No. 1 1/2 at \$3.65.

Shanghai, 1st April.—(From Messrs. Noel Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report).—Piece Goods.—There is some forward enquiry for English makes, but mostly at impracticable prices, transactions during the interval, in consequence, continuing on a very small scale. The exceedingly uncertain position of Exchange is having a very depressing effect on the trade; a sudden drop of one and a half per cent. during the interval upsetting all calculations, complicated, as it has been at the close by a temporary reaction, due purely to local causes, and in spite of a further decline in silver. The dealers are discouraged, as well they may be, and only a small daily business is passing in spot cargo. Tempted by the comparatively low prices ruling, however, there has been some further buying of American goods, which looking at the abnormal size of the stock here, certainly betokens an extraordinary amount of confidence on the part of some of the trade. Thus, they can be laid down here much cheaper

than Manchester makes of the same class, and will probably take their place for the time being. Importers finding it now impossible to get within three or four per cent. of the cost of replacing the latter. The weather continues to be very unfavourable, and no doubt is impeding business to a great extent, the exceptionally heavy rainfall during the last two or three weeks increasing the difficulties of transportation and interfering very much with the deliveries. These would be better too, but for the scarcity of tonnage, which is causing no little inconvenience. The news from Newchwang is very favourable, especially for Bombay Yarns, which has caused a strong advance in prices here during the week. Cheap American Shirtings are also in demand, but so far the reports are very meagre. From Tientsin and other Outports there is nothing fresh to mention; the heavy rains in Hankow especially, being the only obstruction to the trade at present. The market here may be described as very quiet but firm. Auction prices have steadied up a little, but have not regained the ground lost last week. Local Industry.—The International Cotton Manufacturing Co.'s Mill was formally started yesterday, although a few spindles have been worked by an auxiliary engine for some weeks passed. Some 10,000 spindles are now running and will be gradually increased until the full number, 40,000, are put in. The prospects for these enterprises are rapidly increasing, and it is reported to-day that 100 bales No. 16s. of the Soy-Chee Mill's spinings have been sold at Tls. 75.00 per bale for Anchor chop.

Metals.—(From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co.'s Report) 2nd April.—There seem to be no signs of a change for the better, but, if anything, the market is more stagnant than was reported last week. Nothing is doing among the natives; those who have little or no stocks are just waiting events, considering themselves fortunate, but the large majority of them who have enormous stocks on hand are simply being supported by interest, for they cannot move anything in the present state of affairs. The extreme tensions of the money market, unfavourable news from consuming districts, and the rash speculations in gold and shares which have been going on lately have brought about such a state of things as to make it impossible to foretell the outcome; not a few natives have left their P. P. C., or have departed without that formality during the week, and unless something unforeseen takes place many more will follow. The only business done during the week was 150 tons Steel Plate Cuttings at Tls. 1.90 per picul and 100 tons Old Round Iron at 92/-, c.i.f.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

WEDNESDAY, 7th April.
 EXCHANGE

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/0 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	2/0 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/0 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.53
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.57
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.05
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	49 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	50 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	160 1/2
Bank, on demand	161
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	160 1/2
Bank, on demand	161
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	73 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	14% pm
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	9% pm
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	14% pm
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate	9.78
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	50.75

JOINT STOCK SHARES

HONGKONG, April 7th.—The Settlements having passed off satisfactorily on the 31st, both here and in Shanghai, the market has ruled stronger and a fair business has been transacted at advancing rates.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been in a small but steady demand without finding sellers at the rates recently quoted, and buyers have had to pay as high as 163 per cent. premium for their requirements. At time of writing the market is firm and small lots are still wanted at the enhanced rate of 170. Nationals (and Bank of China) continue quiet without sales.

MARINE INSURANCE.—China Traders have changed hands at \$79. Cantons at \$187 1/2, and Straits at \$19, \$19 1/2, and \$20 cash, and at \$20 to \$21 for June and July delivery, market closing with buyers at \$19 1/2 to \$20. Yangtzes have improved to \$165 after sales at \$167 1/2 on the strength of an announcement of a 20 per cent. div. North Chinas remain neglected at quotation.

FIRE INSURANCE.—Have ruled dull with little or no business beyond small sales of Chinas at \$102, Hongkongs continuing on offer at \$360 without finding buyers.

SHIPPING.—A fair to large business has been put through in Hongkong, Canton and Macao at gradually increasing rates; in the early part of the week shares changed hands at \$34 1/2 and \$34 1/2, and later at \$35 and \$35 1/2, market closing with sellers at \$35 1/2. Indo-Chinas have continued in favour at \$46 1/2 and \$47 with fair sales, chiefly at the latter rate. China Manilas have found small buyers at \$70 and \$69 and China Mutuals remain without business, although shares could be placed at quotations. Douglasses continue entirely out of the market with sellers at \$60.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been dull and inactive with but small sales at \$133 and \$134, closing with buyers at latter rate. Luzons have been the medium of a fair business at \$40 and \$41, closing steady.

MINING.—Punjoms have been negotiated at \$5 1/2, \$5 1/2, \$5 1/2, and \$5, the market closing at latter rate. The result of last month's clean up is as follows: 231 oz. gold from 960 tons ore crushed, 100 oz. from 940 tons headings, 47 oz. from 50 tons calcined, and 289 oz. bullion valued at 15/6 an ounce from 740 tons of tailings treated by the Cyanide process total about 430 oz. gold. New Balmorals have been dealt in during the week at \$2.30 for prefs and at \$2 and \$1.80 for ordinary shares. Raubs have been enquired for at \$13.75 and \$14 without bringing out any, but very small lots; market closes at \$14 to \$14 1/2 more or less nominal, it being difficult to arrive at a quotation until news is received of the rate at which the 10,000 unallotted shares were taken on the 31st ultimo. Charbonnages could be placed in small lots at \$75, but no shares seem to be forthcoming. Olivers have changed hands at \$17 1/2 to \$18 for A and at \$7 for B, closing quiet.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks changed hands as low as 243 over the settlements, but later the rate quickly rose to 247 with sales at that and intermediate rates for cash, and at 252 for May, 255 and 256 for June, and 262 and 263 for August; market closes steady, but with a few shares offering for the end of the month at 250 per cent. prem. Kowloon Wharves have experienced a little boom and a good many shares have found buyers at \$61, \$62, \$63, \$64, and \$65, with reported sales at \$66; at time of writing shares are obtainable at \$65. Wanchais have again been negotiated at \$43 1/2 and \$43 1/2. New Amoy Docks have ruled without business but steady at \$18.60 ex dividend.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have changed hands in considerable quantities at \$77, \$77 1/2, and \$77 1/2, closing with sellers at last rate. Hotels have been in some demand and have been negotiated in fair quantities at \$36 and \$37, closing with buyers. Humphreys Estates have been sold at \$8.75 and \$8.60, closing with sellers at the former rate. West Points continue on offer at \$19 without business. Kowloon Lands have found buyers at quotation.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been in strong demand and have changed hands in fair lots at \$25.25 to \$26 for cash, and at higher than equivalent rates for June, July, and August, at times of closing shares are still enquired for at \$25.75. Watsons have continued on offer during the week at \$13 1/2 with only small sales to report, whilst a lot at an equivalent rate for June failed to find

Shares of the above have been variously quoted for sale, but no shares being obtainable under \$3. Hopes, Fenwick's, Loos, Framways, and Campbell & Moore have all been negotiated at quotations.

Closing quotations are as follow:

COMPANY	PAID UP	QUOTATION
Banks		\$337.50, sales
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	110 3/4, prem.
China & Japan, pref.	\$5	nominal
Do. ordinary	\$1-10	nominal
Do. deferred	\$1	\$5, buyers
Nat'l Bank of China		
R. Shares	\$8	\$24, sellers
Founders Shares	\$1	\$100, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	\$1	\$8, sellers
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	(in liquidation)
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$74, sales & buyers
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$8
China Sugar	\$100	\$134, buyers
Dakin, Griggs & Co.	\$5	(in liquidation)
Dairy Farm Co.	\$5	\$5, nominal
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$30, sellers
Greenland Cement	\$10	\$254, buyers
H. & China Bakery	\$50	\$30
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$110, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$8
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$95, sales & buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$37, sales & buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$109, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$65, sales
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$153, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	247 p. ct. prem.
Insurances		\$433.75, sales
Canton	\$50	\$187 1/2, sal. & sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$102, sales
China Traders	\$25	\$79, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$360, sellers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 195, sellers
Straits	\$20	\$194, sales & buyers
Union	\$25	\$232, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$165, buyers
Land and Building		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$77 1/2
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$3.75, sales
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$16, sales
West Point Building	\$40	\$14.75, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$41, sales & buyers
Mining		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$75, buyers
Jebeu	\$5	\$2.40, sellers
New Balmoral	\$1	\$1.90, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$2.40, sellers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$18, sales & buyers
Do. B.	\$24	\$7, sales & buyers
Punjom	\$4	\$5
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.50, sales
Rauhs	13s. 10d.	\$14.50, sales
Steamship Coys.		
China and Manila	\$50	\$69, sales
China Mutual Ord.	\$5	\$2.5s. ex div.
Do. Preference	\$10	\$5.10 ex div.
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$60, sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$35 1/2, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$47, sales & buyers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37 1/2	\$43 1/2, sales
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12 1/2, sal. & sellers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 2nd April.—(From Messrs. J. P. Biset & Co.'s Report.)—A fair volume of business was done, taking the near approach of the March settlements, which passed off as favourably as was expected, some buyers for the rise failing to meet their engagements. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares have been placed at 162 1/2 and 163 per cent premium for cash and the 10th current, and at 165 per cent premium for the 30th April.—National Bank of China shares are offering at \$24. Marine Insurance.—Yangtzes were placed at \$164 cash and \$165 for April early in the week. An authoritative statement that a dividend of \$12 would be paid and \$50,000 carried to reserve, caused rates to harden, and cash shares changed hands at \$167 1/2, and business was done at the same rate for the 30th current. Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—Shares have been dealt in at various rates, \$19 cash, and to Hongkong at \$20 and at \$19 for March, April and May. Fire Insurance.—Chinas have been sold at \$103. Hongkongs are offering, in Hongkong, at \$360. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas have been in demand, and shares have been placed at Tls. 33 3/4 for cash, Tls. 34 1/2 for the 30th April, and Tls. 36 1/2 for the 30th June. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares have been placed at Tls. 24 3/4, 25 1/4, China Sugar Refining shares have been done at \$143 cash, \$140 1/4 to Hongkong, \$145 for April, and \$146 1/4 from Hongkong for 31st July. The market is weaker at the close. Luzon Sugars Refining shares have been sold to Hongkong at \$40. Mining.—Rauhs

Australian Gold Mining shares have been purchased from Hongkong at \$141. New Balmoral Mining shares were also purchased at \$2 1/2. Docks, Wharves & Godowns.—Shares in Boyd & Co. were placed at Tls. 210, and in S. C. Farnham & Co. at Tls. 185. There are buyers of the latter at Tls. 185, while shares are held for Tls. 187 1/2. Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf shares were placed at Tls. 120. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were placed at Tls. 9. Industrial.—Business has been more active in Cotton Mill shares, on account of the approaching completion of the Mills, and the rumour that the Chinese Government will charge only the import duty on the products, which will be free from inland charges. Ewos have been placed at Tls. 90, Tls. 91, and Tls. 90 for cash, and Tls. 90 for delivery on the 31st May. Internationals at Tls. 93 and Tls. 95, and Laou-Kung-Mows at Tls. 91. Tugs and Cargo Boats.—Taku Tug and Lighter shares changed hands at Tls. 105 ex div. Miscellaneous.—In Tobacco shares Sumatras were placed at Tls. 155 to Tls. 160, cum the final dividend of 10 per cent for the year ending 31st October, 1895, which was paid on the 31st. This makes the dividends for the year 30 per cent. Langkats were placed at Tls. 465 cash, and Tls. 550 for August, early in the week, but better news caused a stronger demand, and shares changed hands at Tls. 500 to Tls. 520 cash, Tls. 525 for April, Tls. 550 and Tls. 560 for May, and Tls. 625 for December. Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares changed hands at Tls. 80, and Hall & Holtz shares at Tls. 37.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 7th April.—During the past fortnight there has been a fair demand for steam tonnage coastwise, but rates for trip charters have not altered much.

From Saigon to Hongkong there is a limited demand at 15 cents per picul according to capacity of steamer.

From Bangkok no fixtures are reported and the rate remains as last quoted.

From Newchwang to Canton there is a moderate demand at 25 cents per picul, but suitable tonnage is scarce.

From Japan coal ports to this one fixture is reported at \$2 per ton, but steamers of 2,000 ton capacity command \$2.25 per ton. To Singapore tonnage is wanted at \$3.25 per ton.

In monthly charters a fair number of steamers have been fixed at an increase on former rates, the demand being principally for trade in northern port.

There is no demand for sailing tonnage for New York. The British ship *Eurydice*, 1,152 tons, is ordered by owners to proceed to Port Townsend, W.I., in ballast.

There are five vessels disengaged in port, registering 8,790 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Ivy—American ship, 1,181 tons, Mantung to Singapore, \$3,500; thence to Hongkong, \$6,750, option Shanghai, \$9,750.

Sikh—British steamer, 1,736 tons, Takao for Taiwan for Yokohama, 17 cents per picul.

Hoihow—British steamer, 896 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 25 cents per picul.

Sabine Rickmers—German steamer, 690 tons, Newchwang to Amoy, 24 cents per picul.

Nanyang—German steamer, 1,160 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2, to Canton, \$2.40 per ton.

Wutan—German steamer, 1,201 tons, Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$2.25 per ton.

Benlarig—British steamer, 1,453 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.10 per ton.

Activ—Danish steamer, 436 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$1.25 per ton.

Loyal—German steamer, 1,237 tons, two trips, Hongay to Swatow, \$1 per ton.

Clara—German steamer, 675 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, \$4.40 in full.

Hunsang—British steamer, 1,535 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, private terms.

Toya Maru—Japanese steamer, 1,548 tons, Saigon to Kobe, 18 cents per picul.

Albinga—German steamer, 1,201 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul.

Bygdo—Norwegian steamer, 771 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.

Ingraban—German steamer, 894 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.

Benquo—British steamer, 1,463 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Framnes—Norwegian steamer, 958 tons, monthly, 3/3 months, \$5,500 per month.

Brer—Danish steamer, 419 tons, monthly, 1 month, \$2,400 per month.

Germania—German steamer, 1,775 tons, monthly, 3/3 months, \$7,200 per month.

Olo—Norwegian steamer, 780 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$4,500 per month.

Demos—German steamer, 1,145 tons, monthly, 4/2 months, \$4,800 per month.

Hope—British steamer, 1,946 tons, monthly, 3 months, private terms.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH

For LONDON.—*Candia* (str.), *Colony* (str.), *Japan* (str.), *Dardanus* (str.), *Taitan* (str.).

For MARSEILLES.—*Brise Simonis* (str.).

For BREMEN.—*Bayern* (str.).

For LAGOS.—*Olympia* (str.).

For HAVRE.—*Courier* (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—*China*, *Belge*, *Falls of Dee*, *Coloma*.

For VICTORIA.—*Ohittagong* (str.).

For NEW YORK.—*Breconshire* (str.).

For AUSTRALIA.—*Tennan* (str.), *Yamashiro Maru* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

ARRIVALS.

31, Atlantic, German bark, from Rajang.

31, Charon Wattana, Siam bk., from Bangkok.

31, Doyo Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.

31, Leeyuen, Chinese str., from Chioo.

31, Onsang, British str., from Probolinggo.

31, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.

31, Eudymion, British str., from Portsmouth.

31, Minerva, British str., from Portsmouth.

31, Melbourne, French str., from Shanghai.

31, Australian, British str., from Sydney.

31, Ariel, Norw. str., from Tientsin.

31, China, British str., from San Francisco.

31, Ellen Rickmers, Ger. str., from Hamburg.

31, Patroclus, British str., from Amoy.

1, Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.

1, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.

1, Tamsui, British str., from Chinkiang.

1, Aden, British str., from London.

1, Clara, German str., from Iloilo.

1, Glenshiel, British str., from London.

1, Boston, Amr. cruiser, from Amoy.

1, Vindobona, Austrian str., from Trieste.

1, Taishun, Chinese str., from Liverpool.

1, Euplectela, British str., from Batoum.

2, Lightning, British str., from Calcutta.

2, Phra Nang, British str., from Bangkok.

2, Loofgmoon, German str., from Canton.

2, Sarpedon, British str., from Liverpool.

2, Undaunted, British cruiser, from Y-hama.

2, Cheang Hye Teng, Brit. str., from Straits.

2, Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.

2, Merionethshire, British str., from London.

2, Stanfield, British bark, from Rajang.

3, Bygdo, Norw. str., from Mantung.

3, Guadalquivir, French str., from Shanghai.

3, Taicheong, German str., from Aroe Bay.

3, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.

3, Ceylon, British str., from Kobe.

3, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.

3, Kaiser Franz Joseph I., Austrian cruiser, from Pola (Austria).

3, Nanchang, British str., from Tientsin.

3, Fausang, British str., from Iloilo.

3, Mirzapore, British str., from Bombay.

3, Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.

4, Amara, British str., from Saigon.

4, Hatan, British str., from Coast Ports.

4, Hongkong, French str., from Hoihow.

4, Ixion, British str., from Shanghai.

4, Leeyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.

- Bayern, German str., from Bremen.
 Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 Loyal, German str., from Iloilo.
 Taiwan, British str., from Iloilo.

DEPARTURES

- March—
 31, Jintu Maru, Jap. str., for Saigon.
 31, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for K'notau.
 31, Chelydra, British str., for Calcutta.
 31, Hunan, British str., for Shanghai.
 31, Melbourne, French str., for Europe.

April—

- 1, Leeyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
 1, Tamsui, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Dorio, British str., for San Francisco.
 1, Ingraban, German str., for Saigon.
 1, J. Diedrichsen, German str., for Hoihow.
 1, Patroclus, British str., for London.
 1, Peiyang, German str., for Shanghai.
 1, Phra C. C. Kiao, Brit. str., for Bangkok.
 2, Wakanoura Maru, Jap. str., for Amoy.
 2, Grafton, H.B.M. cruiser, for Shanghai.
 2, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Changsha, British str., for Kobe.
 2, Deyawongse, British str., for Bangkok.
 2, Kinshu Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
 2, Kweiyang, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Sihan, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Aden, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Bengloe, British str., for Bangkok.
 3, Australian, British str., for Kobe.
 3, Bisagno, Italian str., for Bombay.
 3, Chittagong, British str., for Kobe.
 3, Gnadalkuivir, French str., for Saigon.
 3, Guthrie, British str., for Australia.
 3, Hunsang, British str., for Iloilo.
 3, Kaohidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'chinotzu.
 3, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 3, Olympia, Amr. flagship, for Yokohama.
 4, Benvenue, British str., for Saigon.
 4, Bygde, Norw. str., for Macao.
 4, Cheang H. Teng, British str., for Swatow.
 4, Ellen Rickmers, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
 4, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 4, Glenshiel, British str., for Shanghai.
 4, Mirzapore, British str., for Shanghai.
 4, Nanchang, British str., for Canton.
 4, Paoting, British str., for Foochow.
 4, Sargedon, British str., for Nagasaki.
 4, Taishun, Chinese str., for Tongku.
 4, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 5, Nanyang, German str., for Iloilo.
 5, Coloma, Amr. bark, for S. Francisco.
 5, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 5, Aglaia, German str., for Hamburg.
 5, Ceylon, British str., for London.
 5, Choysang, British str., for Canton.
 5, Clara, German str., for Iloilo.
 5, Ixion, British str., for London.
 5, Leeyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 5, Loksang, British str., for Swatow.
 5, Siam, British str., for Tamsui.
 6, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 6, Chunsang, British str., for Java.
 6, Doyo Maru, Jap. str., for Manila.
 6, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
 6, Keongwai, British str., for Bangkok.
 6, Taichong, German str., for Amoy.
 6, Victoria, Swedish str., for Amoy.
 7, Vindobona, Austrian str., for Kobe.
 7, Comete, French gunboat, for Shanghai.
 7, Kiangpak, Chinese str., for Hankow.
 7, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
 7, Woosung, British str., for Canton.
 7, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
 7, Empress of China, Brit. str., for V'couver.
 7, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 7, Macduff, British str., for New York.
 7, Merionethshire, British str., for Nagasaki.
 7, Phra Nang, British str., for Bangkok.
 7, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED

- Per Keongwai, str., from Koh-si-chang—Mrs. Brookman and infant, Miss Brookman.
 Per Yuensang, str., from Manila—Mrs. Malcampo and 2 children.
 Per Melbourne, str., for Hongkong from Shanghai—Mr. and Mrs. Andrew and child, Mr. J. S. Jones, from Yokohama—Mr. Richard Owen.
 Per Australian, str., from Australia for Hongkong—Messrs. F. A. Haworth and Mussey, Mr. and Mrs. Drewry, Messrs. W. C. Miller and E. S. Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Whitney, Miss Woods, Messrs. A. Malrose, G. F. Malrose, G. W. John-

ston, J. Horne, D. G. Watson, A. Ballow, Mr. and Mrs. Stoddart, Messrs. O. Rowe, W. Tim, G. H. Tuston, Miss L. Martin, Mr. Barratt, For Japan—Mrs. Seymour, Miss Seymour, Miss Collins, Miss Tennant, Mrs. Tall and child, Mr. Ackman, Misses Ackman (2), Messrs. Ackman, Junr., and H. Martin, Miss M. Martin, Messrs. A. E. Forrest, Smith, and Murray.

Per China, str., from San Francisco, &c.—Misses Alexander and E. Beasley, Mr. Jay Charm, Miss Domvelly, Mrs. C. Fairchild, Mr. M. Gray, Miss M. Johnson, Mr. A. E. Kaesser, Miss E. Moore, Messrs. S. Oishi and S. Rinaldo, Mrs. H. Shydom, Mr. H. Suydom, Master Suydom, Mrs. W. D. Rose, Mrs. C. R. Spaulding, Mr. Otis Spaulding, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Thorne, Miss Thorne, Miss L. Trevor, Miss A. K. Wellman, Miss E. B. Wellman, Miss H. Wilder, Messrs. R. J. Woods, G. S. Warren, T. B. Warren, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. L. Young, Mrs. W. Hilton and daughter, Mrs. S. C. Paine, Mrs. S. S. Robinson.

Per Formosa, str., from Coast Ports.—Mr. Jenkins.

Per Glenshiel, str., from London, &c.—Mrs. Crockett and child, Lieut. Burnett, Mrs. MacIntyre and 2 children, Mr. Lambert.

Per Aden, str., from London.—Mr. and Mrs. Beeton and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Pullen and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Beauchamp, Miss McGavin, Mr. and Mrs. Carmichael and infant, Messrs. Waraker, Cadell, Marti, and Ormond.

Per Vindobona, str., from Trieste, &c., for Hongkong—Consul Kutchera, For Shanghai—Consul-General Schmucker and Miss Schmucker, For Kobe—Mrs. and Miss Ballon.

Per Phra Nang, str., from Bangkok, &c.—Mrs. Lindsay.

Per Taishun, str., from Liverpool—Mrs. Ferrier and family, Mrs. Lancaster and son.

Per Lightning, str., from Calcutta, &c.—Lieut. Col. Ramsden, Capt. and Mrs. Dugdale, Capt. and Mrs. Darey, Major Tanner, Mr. and Mrs. Lyell, Rev. and Mrs. Byers and child, Miss Heafer, Messrs. Russell, Sikes, Church, Todd Naylor, Crofts, Cholmeley, and Dunwall.

Per Fushun, str., from Shanghai—Capt. Klupfer, Mr. La Breton and 3 children.

Per Merionethshire, str., from London, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Pallas and 2 children, Messrs. Lamb and Walker, Misses (Walker) (2).

Per Ceylon, steamer, from Kobe.—Messrs. Blundell, Sutton, Hyndes, Mr. and Mrs. Wingrove and 3 children, Mrs. J. P. Donovan, and Mrs. Evans and 3 children.

Per Sungkiang, steamer, from Manila.—Mr. Oppenheim Gerard.

Per Lyeemoon, str., from Shanghai—Mr. and Mrs. Smith Robinson, Mrs. Steinbeck, and Mr. B. Spuin.

Per Haitan, str., from Coast Ports.—Mr. C. F. R. Allen, Mrs. Hutchison, Dr. and Mrs. Bailey, and Miss A. Winstanley.

Per Mirzapore, str., for Hongkong from London—Miss Newcombe, Miss Lord, Miss Barr, Col. Georges, and Mr. Hodgkins. From Brindisi—Messrs. A. Sharp and McGregor Grant, From Gibraltar—Mr. Tessanta. From Bombay—Mrs. A. S. David, Miss Campbell. From Colombo—Hon. A. Morley, Messrs. A. H. Bland, C. J. de Silva, and A. A. Hankey. From Penang—Mr. Leong Fee. From Singapore—Mr., Mrs., and Miss Baker, Major N. Pearce, Capt. and Mrs. Parsons and child, Messrs. F. Caballers, T. Blamey, J. Harris, and D. Souter.

For Shanghai from London—Mr. and Mrs. Pullar, Miss L. Howie, Mrs. Marshall and child, Mr. Sly, Miss McWilliams, Miss Matthews, Messrs. Aiken, Terry, Harsant, Dr. Nukerk, Mr. and Mrs. Edwards. From Brindisi—Messrs. W. Taylor, James, Hetherington, Mr. and Mrs. Goldsmith. From Marseilles via Bombay—Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Bennett. From Bombay—Mr. E. P. Lalcaea. From Colombo—Miss Buck. For Yokohama from London—Messrs. R. Wood, E. Holmes, J. Stewart, and Mrs. B. Valentine. From Ismailia—Mr. and Mrs. Ware. From Bombay—Mr. S. S. Hollis. From Colombo—Mr. G. E. Leon, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Ballastre, Misses Ballastre (2), Miss McCallum, and Mr. Owen Jones. From Singapore—Mr. G. H. Steele.

Per Ancona, str., from Yokohama—Misses Mackae and E. Mackae, Mr. Daster, and Sub-Lieut. H. Grant Duff, R.N.

Per Chunshan, str., from Singapore—Mr. Muskett and Master George Rogers.

Per Canton, steamer, from Manila—Messrs. Cleave, Murphy and Ballantyne.

Per Pathan, str., from Liverpool, &c.—Messrs. Morta and Twinning, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer, Mr. Binks.

Per Rosetta, str., from Shanghai for Hongkong—Messrs. Say Ming Shan and A. Collins, Miss Edwards, Messrs. S. D. Wamberg, H. P. Deavin, Capt. Cocker, Messrs. R. W. Wright, J. J. Collins, and A. Levy. For Singapore—Messrs. J. Catto, H. W. Bow, and Fairweather. For Bombay—Mr. Thomson. For London—Miss Nash, Mr. and Mrs. McConnell, Mr. and Mrs. J. Dymond and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, and Mr. Burdakin.

DEPARTED

Per Sachson, str., from Shanghai for Genoa—Mrs. and Miss Buchheister, Mrs. Garrels and child, Miss Struss, Mrs. Bender, Rev. and Mrs. Kupper and children. For Southampton—Miss Atherley, Mrs. and Miss Wrightson, Dr. and Mrs. Frazer and children, Mr. F. R. and Mrs. Twentyman and children, Mrs. Harde, Messrs. Wilson and E. Tuck, Dr. Douthwaite and children, Miss Dobeon. For Bremen—Mrs. Rührstrat, Miss Supper, Sergt. A. P. Madsen, Mrs. Schneider and child. From Japan for Genoa—Consul and Mrs. Müller-Bock, Capt. Z. See Maschke, Messrs. T. Stühlen and M. Schwartz. For Southampton—Mrs. Edmunds and children, Miss Ritson, Rev. and Mrs. Hind, Miss Nott. From Hongkong for Genoa—Mr. C. and Mrs. Rogge and children, Miss Humbert, Mr. H. B. Lethbridge, Mrs. Becker and children, Mr. Chs. Schultz, Capt. Ott, Mr. C. and Mrs. Tetallaff. For Southampton—Capt. Clement, Miss Clement, Mr. G. B. Wilson.

Per Melbourne, str., for Saigon—Mrs. Sin Henng, Messrs. Sou, T. Kawai, T. Tachibana, and Tremlett. For Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. Chos Poh Swee, Miss A. Vermont, and Mr. Goldstein. For Marseilles—Colonel Vimar, Mrs. Vimar, Messrs. Vimar, J. L. R. Praca, Ramon Ficed, L. Andiganne, P. Ronxel, and J. M. L. Gall.

Per Dorio, str., for Shanghai—Mrs. W. B. Jamieson, Mr. and Mrs. B. K. Morton, Messrs. F. J. Bishop, Pang Chiu Nam, A. Haupt, Ho Yung Shan, J. C. Epperly, R. S. Gray, W. E. Miller, Miss Martin, Messrs. Schlee and D. J. Lamberts. For Nagasaki—Mrs. J. K. Robinson. For Kobe—Mr. and Mrs. Pratt, Mr. and Mrs. Arnfield, Mrs. Burto. For Yokohama—Mrs. Dunning and 2 children, Mrs. Reamy and son, Mr. E. Jones Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Figg. For San Francisco—Miss M. C. Fowle, M.D., Mrs. J. H. Hinder and infant. For Vancouver—Miss S. B. Burrows. For New York—Mr. and Mrs. Cockrane, Mrs. J. B. Lewis. For London—Miss Eastmond, Messrs. S. Coe and H. Burton, Dr. Irmer, Mr. J. Layton, Miss Layton, Mr. E. T. Bond, Miss E. G. Woods, Mr. G. H. Turton. For Liverpool—Mr. T. Cockeroff. For Hamburg—Mr. Witthoeft. For Paris—Mr. and Mrs. Freynet.

Per Changsha, str., for Kobe—Messrs. Rowland Iye and A. Donald.

Per Yuensang, str., for Manila—Messrs. Cadell, Church, Hudson, and Orman.

Per Formosa, str., for Swatow—Mr. D. Moore. Per Australian, str., for Kobe—Mrs. and Miss Seymour, Miss Collins, Miss Tennant, Mrs. Toll, Master Toll, Mr. and Mrs. Ackman, Miss Ackman, Miss R. Ackman, Mr. Ackman, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Stoddart, Messrs. A. E. Forrest, E. D. Clark, Smith, and Murray.

Per Ceylon, str., from Hongkong for Singapore—Mr. A. J. Reed. For Brindisi—Mr. J. S. Ezekiel. For London—Mrs. Moir and 2 children, Mr. Thos. Clark, Master Goggin, Mr. J. Kirkwood, Master Wm. Robinson, Mrs. Joceland and 3 children, Capt. J. Young, Col. Sgt. Major F. D. W. Rutter, wife, and 2 children, Surgeon-Captain Nunberley. From Shanghai for London—Mrs. J. P. Donovan, Mrs. G. R. Evans and 2 children, Mrs. Wingrove and 3 children. From Yokohama for London—Messrs. A. M. Sutton and J. W. Blundell. From Kobe for Singapore—Mr. B. A. Hyndes.

Per Haitan, str., for Amoy—Mrs. Malcampo and 2 children. For Foochow—Miss Newcombe, Miss Mendes, Mrs. Xavier and child, and Mr. Howell.